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MADRAS LEGISLAT

INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS

FIRST SESSION OF THE

FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

24th, 27th and 28th February, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 12th March 1931

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 12th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumanga Thayarammal, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Browning, Mr. W. M.
Devadason, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kondappa, Mr. A.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Pate, I.C S., Mr. H. R.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Raja of Bobbili.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. B.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao, Sahib P.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Waddington, Mr. H.
Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H A.
Wright, Mr. W. O.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur,
Zamindar of Chemudu.

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and then took their seats:—

Mr. W. O. WRIGHT.

Mr. H. WADDINGTON.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Arms and Explosives

Cancellation of gun licences in Mangalore and other taluks.

* 529 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a number of gun licences have been cancelled within the last six months in the taluks of Mangalore, Kasaragod, Puttur and Karkal;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative how many gun licences have been cancelled and for what reasons; and

(*c*) whether any gun licences have been cancelled because the licence-holders wear khaddar clothes or put on Gandhi caps?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place the information on the table of the House when it is received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered when the information is received."

Government Press

Deduction of dues to the Government Press Party from the salaries of the members.

* 530 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that subscriptions and other dues to the Government Press Party are being recovered by the Superintendent from the salaries of the employees of the Government Press, who are members of the party; and

(*b*) if the answer be in the affirmative, whether there are any orders of the Government under which the Superintendent makes such recoveries and if so, what they are?

A.—(*a*) Yes. Such recoveries are being made by the pay disbursing officer at the express request of each member in writing.

(*b*) There is no Government Order dealing with this matter.

12th March 1931]

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"With reference to the answer given in clause (*a*), may I know who it was that took written orders from these members ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"What I was given to understand was that these members made a request in writing to the Superintendent that this might be done."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"Was the order voluntary ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"Yes, voluntary."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member to call for a copy of the request made by the Government Press employees and place it on the table of the House ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I do not think it is necessary."

Minimum wages and security of service for employees in the Government Press.

* 531 *Q.*—Mr. C. Basu Dev : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the question of minimum wage for the workmen of the Government Press was discussed by the Superintendent of the Government Press with the Government ; if so, what is the result ;

(*b*) whether permanent appointments as piece-work compositors have not been made since October 1929 ; if so, why ;

(*c*) whether the Government have ordered the reduction of strength of the piece-work establishment ; if so, why, to what extent, and on what principle ;

(*d*) whether the Superintendent of the Government Press is sending away men of service without notice ; and

(*e*) what provision has been made for the flow of work so as to enable the piece-work compositors to earn the barest minimum living wage and increased wages as they advance in age and service ?

A.—(*a*) Yes. It was found that the employees in the Government Press were getting, on the whole, higher wages than employees in private presses besides working shorter hours and being more generously treated as regards leave and pension.

(*b*) Yes. The question of introducing a Contributory Provident Fund system for the technical employees of the Press is under the consideration of Government. Pending a final decision on the question, Government have considered it unnecessary to increase the number of pensionable appointments.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Twenty-five temporary compositors, who are appointed on the understanding that they will be sent away without notice when work becomes slack, were discharged by the Superintendent, Government Press, on account of decrease in work.

[12th March 1931

(e) The flow of work is so regulated as to give an equal share of work to every man as far as possible. In slack seasons preference is given first to permanent hands and then to temporary hands according to age and service. The earnings of piece-workers depend upon their ability and efficiency; but on occasions, light work at time rates is given to men when they get to the verge of retirement.

Police

Alleged biting of a picketer by a constable.

* 532 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Sidhi Govindan, a picketer, was badly bitten by a constable on the 13th February and had to be removed to the Congress Emergency Hospital for treatment;

(b) whether police constables have been authorized to bite picketers also; and

(c) if not, whether the Government will take action against the constable?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the press communiqué,[a] dated 24th February 1931.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In answer to clause (a) it is stated 'The hon. Member is referred to the Press Communique, dated 24th February 1931'. May I know whether the Government have made any enquiries subsequent to the issue of the communique?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the Government will call for information from non-official Members who have got some evidence to give and whether according to that fact he will take the necessary action?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" If the evidence is sent to me, I am prepared to consider the matter."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" What is the information upon which the communiqué was issued by the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Commissioner of Police made enquiries. I may also say that the Commissioner of Police states as follows:—

"' There was no picketing or other demonstration in Godown Street from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the 14th though a patrol was on duty there. In the afternoon there was not even a police patrol in the street.'"

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Do the Government think that the statement as to the biting is an ingenious lie invented by that picketer with some motive to charge the police?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 528 infra.

12th March 1931]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have no information on the point. I have given information from what I have in my possession, viz., the report of the Commissioner of Police."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"May I know if the Police are permitted to bite the people if they think it necessary to disperse an unlawful assembly ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"My point is that they have not done so."

Prevention of photographers from taking photos of the picketing at Rattan Bazaar road.

*533 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the representatives of the Press Photo Bureau were forcibly prevented by the Police from taking photos of the picketing at Rattan Bazaar road on the 7th February 1931 and some other days ;

(*b*) whether the Police had any instructions to prevent by force any individual or company from taking photos of scenes when picketing of foreign cloth shops was going on ; and

(*c*) if no instructions have been given to that effect, what action the Government have taken against the offending policemen ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"If the Government have no information, will they call for information ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have called for the information and this is what the Commissioner of Police has stated :—

'I have to state that no force was ever used deliberately against members of the Press Photo Bureau. If they were in a crowd ordered to disperse and declining to do so, they may have shared the fate of others. Photographs actually appeared in the *Hindu* on 9th, 13th and 16th February 1931 and in *Swarajya* on 9th and 12th February 1931. I issued no instructions in the matter'."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know if the hon. Member has perused the report in the newspapers ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Yes, Sir."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"Did they consider the whole thing ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"They considered the question from all the materials available to them."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know if the proprietors of the Press Photo Bureau also complained about the incident ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"A complaint was made to me through the telephone and I asked them to do so in writing but this was not done."

[12th March 1931

Alleged assault on pressmen by the Police in Rattan Bazaar street.

* 534 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether on Wednesday, February 11th, a press reporter was rudely pushed aside by Inspector Currie near the Flower Bazaar Police station ;

(*b*) whether the reporter said to Mr Currie, ' Mr. Currie, we are pressmen, you know ' and whether Mr. Currie replied, ' I don't care who you are, and I don't want your d——d report ' ;

(*c*) whether the Government proposes to take any action against Mr. Currie for his conduct ;

(*d*) whether the Government will issue instructions to see that the Police do not roughly handle press reporters ; and

(*e*) whether the Commissioner or Inspector Currie paid a visit to the Hindu office in this connexion and spoke to the Editor about the comments which appeared in that paper?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will the Government call for information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, I have called for the information and this is what the report says :—

' The Inspector denies both these charges. It is quite possible that a reporter was hustled with other members of the crowd. It is impossible to discriminate on these occasions. The report of the *Hindu* on the incident shows that a reporter was standing on the pavement in front of the shops picketed.

(*c*) Does not arise.

(*d*) Inspector Currie was told not to interfere with press reporters in any way but reporters must take their chance of being dispersed if they are members of a crowd which has been ordered to " move on ".

(*e*) No.' "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know, even when the reporter told Mr. Currie that he was there as a reporter representing certain paper, why he was treated in the manner in which he was treated ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I said he was not treated in that manner."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know when Mr. Currie was told not to interfere with the press reporters ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " After this question was received I sent it to the Commissioner of Police and he told us that he had given instructions to his subordinates not to interfere with the Press Reporters."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Did the Commissioner of Police entertain any suspicion ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He did not entertain any suspicion."

12th March 1931]

Alleged assault of pressmen by the Police in Rattan Bazaar street.

*535 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that even the pressmen were forcibly pushed by the Police in Rattan Bazaar street on the 11th February 1931; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons for such a behaviour on the part of the Police even towards press people?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Reinstatement of Mr. Samuel, probationary Sub-Inspector of Police.

*536 Q.—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the probation of nine Police Sub-Inspectors was ceased in November last;

(b) whether on the appeal of one of these nine men, by name Yarlagadda Surayya, P.T.S. No. 50, he was reinstated, although he had three black marks and failed in two subjects; and

(c) whether on a similar appeal from P.T.S. No. 34, S. Samuel by name, he was not reinstated although he failed like the former in two subjects, but had no black marks like him?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Government were consulted before the probation was terminated?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"The Government were not consulted."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know what was the special circumstance that distinguished the case of Mr. Samuel from that of Mr. Surayya?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I think it is a matter entirely within the discretion of the head of the department."

District Superintendents of Police transferred from Coimbatore district.

*537 Q.—Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the number, names and the dates of posting and transfer of District Superintendents of Police to and from the Coimbatore district within the past two years?

A.—The information is given in the following statement:—

Number and name of officer.	Date of joining the district.	Date of leaving the district.
1. Mr. E. L. Skinner ...	13th November 1928.	8th January 1929.
2. ,, C. R Charsley ...	9th January 1929.	28th January 1929
3. ,, E. L. Skinner ...	29th January 1929.	2nd April 1929.

Number and name of officer.	Date of joining the district.	Date of leaving the district.
4. Mr. J. M. Green	3rd April 1929.	1st September 1929.
5. ,, E. L. Skinner ...	2nd September 1929.	25th October 1929.
6. ,, H. Dawson	26th October 1929.	20th April 1930.
7. ,, D. C. T. Cameron ..	23rd April 1930.	22nd September 1930.
8. ,, J. Elliott	23rd September 1930.	31st October 1930.
9. ,, A. F. Bulkley ...	1st November 1930.	26th January 1931. (Proceeded on leave from 27th January 1931).
10. ,, J. Elliott	(Posted)	......

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"May I know why there have been frequent transfers of District Superintendents of Police from one place to another, and whether it does not entail a large amount of expenditure by way of travelling allowance?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"Yes."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"Will the Government call for information in this matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I do not think there is any necessity."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"Is there any special reason for these numerous transfers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"In this matter we act upon the advice of the Head of the Department. Any how in view of the suggestions made by hon. Members I shall draw his attention."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—"May I know whether these transfers are made on account of the salubrious climate of Coimbatore?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"On account of exigencies of service."

Transfer of Mr. S. P. Krishna Ayyar and Mr. A. C. Hensman, Deputy Superintendents of Police, from Coimbatore district.

* 538 Q.—Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the date of and the reasons for the transfers of Mr. S. P. Krishna Ayyar and Mr. A. C. Hensman, Deputy Superintendents of Police, from the Coimbatore district?

12th March 1931]

A.—M.R.Ry. S. P. Krishna Ayyar Avargal and Mr. A. C. Hensman were transferred from the Coimbatore district on the 5th February 1931. The transfers were due to the exigencies of the public service.

Alleged police attack on a procession at Coimbatore on 7th December 1930.

* 539 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a procession at Coimbatore on 7th December 1930 in honour of Mr. C. P. Subbiah on his release from jail was dispersed by force by the police;

(*b*) whether there was any prohibitory order then in force against processions and such like demonstrations;

(*c*) on whose authority the procession was dispersed;

(*d*) whether the procession was dispersed by the use of lathis or wooden spoons (agappays);

(*e*) if by wooden spoons, whether they were supplied departmentally, or were purchased on the spot or seized from neighbouring shops;

(*f*) how many were injured;

(*g*) whether all the injured were Congressmen, or whether mere spectators and passers-by were also injured;

(*h*) whether the hon. the Home Member would be pleased to lay the report of the authorities in reference to this on the Council table; and

(*i*) if no report has been received, whether he would call for it and lay the same on the table?

A.—(*a*) to (*i*) The Government have no information.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Will the Government call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I do not think there is any necessity to call for the information especially in view of the fact that a settlement has been happily arrived at. Let the Government and the opposition engage themselves in promoting friendly feelings in the country."

Alleged beating of certain persons by the police at Karkal.

*540 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that during the days immediately succeeding the promulgation of the order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in the town of Karkal the police went about beating persons on whom they or their friends had a grudge; and

(*b*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Unless the hon. Member can be more precise as to the date, the number and names of the persons said to have been beaten, the names or numbers and rank of the police concerned and the nature of the grudge they are alleged to have harboured, the Government are not in a position to furnish any answers to his inquiries.

Exchange of Mufassal and City Police Inspectors.

* 541 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the total service of each Inspector now serving in the City Police on the mufassal scale of pay;

(*b*) whether any steps have been taken by the Government periodically to exchange City Police Inspectors with mufassal Police Inspectors; and

(*c*) if so, in how many cases such exchange has been made, what are the cases and from which districts?

A.—(*a*) There are ten Inspectors in the mufassal scale of pay and their total service amounts to 27, 24, 25, 18, 23, 23, 16, 15, 14 and 12 years respectively.

(*b*) & (*c*) No, but four of the ten abovementioned Inspectors were drafted in from the mufassal in permanent vacancies.

Civil Justice

Location of Courts at Kurnool.

* 542 Q.—Mr. A. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any complaints have been received by the Government that great hardship has been caused to the lawyers and the litigants by the location of the District Court and the Sub-Court at Kurnool in one building and by the location of the District Munsif's Court at Kurnool in another place away from the former building;

(*b*) whether the local Bar Association at Kurnool made representations to the District Judge, and the Government to locate the District Munsif's Court in the same compound as the District Court and the Sub-Court; and

(*c*) whether Government intend to do so?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Government have no information whether any representation was made to the District Judge. Government have not received any representation to that effect.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Letter from the Collector to the District Judge of South Kanara regarding the resignation of Mr. S. B. Bhide from the Municipal Council, Mangalore.

* 543 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received the information called for with reference to clause (*a*) of question No. 162, dated 28th January 1931, regarding the letter written by the Collector of South Kanara to the District Judge of South Kanara in regard to the resignation of his seat in the Municipal Council, Mangalore, by Mr. S. B. Bhide;

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a copy of the said letter; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

12th March 1931]

A.—(*a*) Yes.
(*b*) No.
(*c*) None.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether the matter contained in that letter sought to interfere with the discretion of the District Judge and the Judges subordinate to him, and may I know whether the letter will be placed on the table ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I have said that the letter cannot be placed on the table, but nevertheless, as my friend is very anxious about this, I may say for his information that there has been no interference as contemplated by my hon. Friend."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the letter was written with a view that the District Judge should not give commissions to Mr. S. B Bhide."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I am afraid my Friend wants me to disclose the contents of that letter which, I think, I cannot do in public interests."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Has the hon. the Law Member taken any action to see that the public interests do not suffer by the interference of Collectors ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I have satisfied myself by perusing the letter that public interests do not suffer. I do not think that it is necessary for the Government to take any action."

Forests

Alleged unwillingness of people in South Kanara to form panchayats under the forest village system.

* 544 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the existing number of panchayats under the forest village system in South Kanara ; and

(*b*) whether the Government have received reports that people are unwilling to form such panchayats and, if so, why they are so unwilling ?

A.—(*a*) Three.
(*b*) The unwillingness of the people to form such panchayats is reported to be due to the continuance of the concessions permitted in the district in regard to free removal of undergrowth in the reserved forest.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" With reference to the answer given to clause (*b*) viz., " the unwillingness of the people to form such panchayats is reported to be due to the continuance of the concession, etc., etc.", may I know whether it is due to this cause or any other cause ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It is not due to any other cause."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether the unwillingness of the people to form panchayats is due to the addition in the agreement of a new condition to which they are unwilling to subscribe."

[12th March 1931

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I have no knowledge about it. Anyhow, as my Friend is very anxious to know all about it, I request him to give me a separate notice when I shall enquire into the matter."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether the neighbouring people are made to do this work free of charge by the forest subordinates?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"From the information that I have from the head of the department, there was no such instance. If my Friend gives me specific instances I shall certainly enquire into the matter."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—'May I know if they are paid lesser rates of wages or are they paid the prevailing wages?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"They are paid the usual wages."

Alleged compulsion of cultivators to fire-trace the exterior lines of the reserves in South Kanara.

*545 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether forest subordinates in South Kanara compel poor cultivators to clear and fire-trace the exterior lines of the reserves without making any payment for their labour; and

(*b*) whether the Government pay for this work or whether they expect free labour from the neighbouring people?

A.—(*a*) The Government are not aware of any such case as is alleged.

(*b*) The Government pay for such work. They do not expect free labour from the neighbouring people.

Jails

Remission of sentence awarded to Mr. Collett.

*546 Q.—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. Collett who was sentenced for two years, was given seven months' remission?

A.—He was granted a remission of five months and thirteen days.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know why such long term of remission is given to prisoners?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I believe it was done in the usual course. If my Friend wants more accurate information, I request him to give me notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"May I know what is the maximum term of remission which can be earned by a prisoner for two years?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"Notice, Sir."

12th March 1931]

Alleged striking of a prisoner by Mr. Howe.

*547 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. Howe, the Jail Superintendent, struck a prisoner in the presence of the jail visitor, the hon. Mr. G. Narayanaswami Chetti, and whether he made a complaint about it to the Inspector-General of Prisons ; and

(*b*) what action the Government have taken thereon ?

A.—(*a*) The answer to both parts of the question is in the negative.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether Mr. Narayanaswami Chetti did not inform the Inspector-General of Police or make a complaint to the hon the Law Member personally ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" He did not tell me. The Inspector-General of Prisons says that Mr. Narayanaswami Chetti did not tell him."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" What did Mr. Narayanaswami Chetti tell you ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" He did not tell me anything."

Marine

Increase in the cost of dredging operations.

* 548 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why, while the cost of dredging operations per ton fell from Re. 0-3-2 in 1927-28 and 1928-29 to Re. 0-2-11 in 1929-30, in the case of *Negapatam* Dredger, it rose from Re. 0-3-0 in 1927-28 and Rs. 1-6-1 in 1928-29 to Rs. 4-1-5 in 1929-30, and from Rs. 1-6-11 in 1928-29 to Rs. 5-15-8 in 1929-30 in the case of *Cocanada* and *Gouthami*, respectively ?

A.—The hon. Member has presumably taken the figures from the report on the Administration of the Madras Port Department for the year 1929-30 which was placed at the disposal of the Press with G.O. No. 584, Finance (Marine), dated 1st December 1930. On an examination the Government found that the basis on which the figures were worked out was not correct. The correct procedure for arriving at the average cost of dredging operations would be to take the total expenses for the year (for establishment, stores, depreciation, repairs, etc.), and divide that amount by the number of tons of spoil dredged during the year. Calculated on this basis, the working expenses (cost per ton) of the two dredgers are as follows :—

	1927-28			1928-29			1929-30		
	RS	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Cocanada	0	6	0	0	15	1	0	9	10
Gouthami	...			0	12	6	0	10	7

[12th March 1931

Reduction of landing and other charges at Madras port.

* 549 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the consolidated landing charge levied at the Madras port for dutiable cargo and non-dutiable cargo and why different rates are made applicable to the two kinds of cargo;

(*b*) how much of the landing charge is taken by the Port Trust and how much by the landing agents;

(*c*) how much of the tonnage handled by the landing agents in 1929–30 was actually boated and how much landed direct on the quay without any service on their part;

(*d*) why the landing charge on cargo landed on the quay and on cargo boated from the moorings is the same;

(*e*) what is the charge paid by the exporters for boating one ton of cargo;

(*f*) why the Port Trust does not charge the same rate for boating import cargo;

(*g*) whether the Government received any representation from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce in February 1930 for reduction of Port Trust rates, and if so, what action has been taken on it; and

(*h*) whether Government propose to take any action for reducing landing and other charges levied at the port of Madras?

A.—(*a*) The rates of consolidated landing charges levied at the port of Madras on import cargo (with certain exceptions) up to one ton in weight or measurement per package, landed from vessels whether lying at quays or at moorings are shown below:—

	RS.	A.	P.	
(i) Foreign and dutiable coasting import cargo.	2	0	0	per ton (to cover landing, cranage, and quay dues).
(ii) Non-dutiable coasting cargo.	2	10	0	per ton (to cover landing, cranage, quay dues and porterage).

Goods (with certain exceptions) over one ton in weight or measurement per package landed over a quay, either directly or by lighters from a vessel at the same quay, have to pay the above consolidated landing charges and cranage in addition.

The higher rate for non-dutiable coasting cargo is due to the fact that the handling of these goods has been relinquished by the Trust to the steamer agents and the consolidated charge consequently includes cost of porterage also. There is however a reduction of 10 annas in the harbour dues on these goods.

(*b*) The Port Trust take at the rate of 5 annas per ton; the balance is taken by the landing agents.

12th March 1931]

(c) The tonnage on which consolidated charges were levied in 1929-30 was as follows :—

Tonnage landed direct on quay ...	...	289,361
Tonnage landed by lighters whether from ship at quay or ship at mooring	...	247,565

(d) Cargo landed on the quay and cargo taken by boat from the moorings are required to pay the same consolidated charge as otherwise the owners of goods discharged at quay will gain an advantage over the other owners and will be able to undersell them.

(e) The Government have no information.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) A representation was received in March 1930 from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce on the administration of the Madras Port Trust generally. This representation is under the consideration of Government.

(h) Under sections 42 to 43-A of the Madras Port Trust Act, 1905, the Trust is primarily responsible for the maintenance of a proper scale of rates. Proposals for the alteration of the existing rates should first be formulated by the Trust. The revision of the present arrangements for handling import cargo is under the consideration of the Port Trust Board. Government will favourably consider any suggestion of the Port Trust Board which is likely to be in the interest of trade.

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" May I know why Government charge Rs. 2 and Rs 2-10-0 for landing charges, while private agencies levy only 8 annas per ton for export for the same kind of work ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" These are all regulated by the rules framed by the Port Trust Board. In fact it is left to their discretion and the powers of Government are limited in this matter."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" Is it not obvious that it is a great injustice done that Rs. 2 and Rs. 2-10-0 should be levied for landing charges by the Government while the market rate charged by private agencies is only 8 annas per ton for export, the work being the same in both cases ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It is not obvious to me. It is after all a matter of opinion."

Mr. Yakub Hasan :—" Considering the fact that these grievances have been ventilated in the Press and on the floor of this House, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to look into the matter and see that the grievances are redressed ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I believe the Port Trust is considering the whole matter and, when I receive the report from the Port Trust, I shall carefully look into the whole matter."

[12th March 1931

Sarada Act.

11-15 a.m. *Prosecutions under the Sarada Act.*

* 550 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many prosecutions have so far been made under the Sarada Act and with what result ; and

(*b*) what the intentions of the Government are with regard to enforcing the provisions of this Act ?

A.—(*a*) One up to the end of January 1931. The accused involved were four. Two were fined rupees twenty each and one rupees ten. The charge against the fourth was withdrawn.

(*b*) As under section 9 of the Act a prosecution cannot be initiated except upon private complaint, the enforcement of its provisions generally is not within the province of Government.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the Sarada Act is being defied by the people and a large number of early marriages are taking place in spite of the Sarada Act ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I think that the suggestion conveyed by my hon. Friend is correct."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether the village officers have been instructed not to report any violations of the provisions of this Act, to the superior officers ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" There are no such instructions at all. As my hon. Friend knows, prosecutions can be instituted only when there are complaints from private people. The Government have no option under the Act."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" Is not the object of the Sarada Act a public one, to subserve public interests ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It may be so ; or it may not be so."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" What steps have the Government taken in the matter ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" The Government have enacted the law."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" May I enquire whether the Government have issued instructions to their subordinates to report cases against the Act ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" There is no option for the Government. There is no rule by which the Government can issue instructions. As I have already submitted, prosecution can be launched only on the complaint of private individuals and the Government have no control over private individuals."

12th March 1931]

Alleged dismissal and reinstatement of a village munsif for transgressing the Sarda Act.

*551 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether recently the Collector of Tanjore ordered the dismissal of a village munsif for transgressing the provisions of the Sarda Act;

(b) whether the Board of Revenue, on appeal, recommended that the man might be asked to resign instead of being punished with a dismissal; and

(c) whether this matter came up finally before the Government and they ordered the reinstatement of the village munsif?

A.—(a) No. It was the Sub-Collector, Negapatam, who ordered the dismissal.

(b) The Board of Revenue made no such recommendation.

(c) The reference to Government was as to the disposal by the Collector of the appeal from the Sub-Collector's order, and the advice given was that the appeal should be allowed.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the point that the Government have ordered that the appeal should be allowed, do the Government mean that the village munsif should be reinstated?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That was the advice given by the Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Do the Government not feel that he is not carrying out the spirit of the Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"This matter is not one of prosecution but of a departmental punishment."

Economic Condition

Economic distress in South Kanara.

*552 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute economic distress in the district of South Kanara owing to the fall in the price of produce such as rice, pepper, arecanuts, coconuts, etc.;

(b) what is the percentage of fall in the present year as compared with the prices in the previous three years, in the prices of the above produce in South Kanara;

(c) whether any representations have been made to the District Collector or the Government in the matter; and

(d) whether the Government propose to give any remission to the ryots in the assessment in view of the phenomenal fall in prices or otherwise alleviate their distress?

A.—(a) It is a fact that trade and agriculture in general have been adversely affected by the recent fall of prices; but this condition is not peculiar to the South Kanara district.

[12th March 1931

(b) A statement [a] showing the price of rice and coconut in the present year and in the previous three years is annexed. Similar information regarding the prices of pepper and arecanuts is not available.

(c) The Government have not received any representation; they have no information whether the District Collector has received any.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (b) of question No. 388.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"With reference to clause (c), may I know whether the Government will call for the information whether the Collector received any representations?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I do not think it is necessary to call for the information, whether the District Collector received any representation. If he thinks that any action is desirable, he will report the matter to the Board of Revenue."

Irrigation

Action taken on the Cauvery Committee's report.

* 553 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(1) to place on the table of the House a statement showing the decisions the Government have come to with reference to the works referred to in paragraph 192 (page 62) of the Cauvery Committee's report; and

(2) to state—

(a) what action in particular has been taken so far with reference to the Committee's proposals concerning the Vennar, the Pamaniyar, the Mulliyar and the Valavanar; and

(b) what budget provision is being made for Vennar drainage in view of the recent devastating floods?

A.—(1) & (2) (a) A statement [b] is laid on the table.

(2) (b) There is a provision of Rs. 1,00,000 in the current year and it is proposed to provide Rs. 50,000 in the Budget Estimates for 1931–32.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"It is stated in the appendix that the upland drainage of Vennar is not recommended by the Chief Engineer. May I know what is the proposal of the Government in this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"The project referred to by the hon. Member will cost several lakhs. As hon. Members are aware, a project is now under execution for the diversion of a great deal of upland drainage into the Cauvery above the Grand Anicut and thence into the Coleroon. The diversion of more drainage into the Coleroon across the Vennar and Cauvery below the Grand Anicut involves very large expenditure and the present financial conditions make it impossible for us to take it up. The Government are therefore concentrating on less expensive projects."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 528 infra. [b] Printed as Appendix III on pages 529–532 infra.

12th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"May I know whether the Government will consider the possibility of reducing the estimate submitted by the Superintending Engineer? May I know whether the Government cannot carry out the project in some other form?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"In any case, it will cost several lakhs to carry out the project."

Repairs to the Mamandoor flood channel.

* 554 Q.—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the tank in Elacheri (village No. 124), Cheyyar taluk, North Arcot, was classified as under anicut cultivation and the assessment raised ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that for a number of years past the lands were uncultivated for want of water and that remission of tax was allowed ;

(*c*) whether the Government have considered the advisability of repairing the Mamandoor flood channel that feeds the tank ; and, if not, why not ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the tank-bund is so low that it cannot contain a large supply of water ; and

(*e*) whether steps would be taken to raise and strengthen the tank-bund ; and, if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The tank was originally included in the list of works connected with the Palar anicut system. It was subsequently eliminated from the list as it did not receive supply from the anicut. The question of including it in the list of minor works in charge of the Public Works Department in North Arcot is under the consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The Government have no information as to whether the assessment was raised or whether remission was allowed. They have called for a report.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) The Government have called for a report.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—"With reference to answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*), may I know whether it was originally included in the list of works connected with the Palar anicut system?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I must ask for notice of the question."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"May I enquire whether the failure of adequate supply to this tank is due to the failure of freshes in the Palar?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I cannot answer that question straightaway."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"If it is due to failure of freshes, may I know whether this point is referred to in the report of the Committee?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I must ask for notice."

[12th March 1931

Expenditure on irrigation in the Salem district.

* 555 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiappa Gounder : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the amount spent in each year on irrigation sources in the Salem district for the past ten years ; and

(b) what is the percentage when compared with the amount spent in the whole Presidency ?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

Supply of water for irrigation to Salem district from the Mettur dam.

* 556 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation of the possibility of supplying water for irrigation to Salem district from Mettur dam has been completed and if so, with what result;

(b) whether a complete report of the same will be placed on the table ; and

(c) whether the Government propose to pursue the question any further ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to G.O. No. 1214 I., dated 14th April 1930, which was placed on the table on 6th November 1930.

(c) No.

Proposed digging of additional canals in Namakkal taluk.

* 557 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiappa Gounder : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any proposal at any time to dig up additional channels in Namakkal taluk of Salem district in order to bring Cauvery water to irrigate some more area ; and

(b) if so, what it was and why it was not put into execution ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to G.O No. 1214 I., dated 14th April 1930, which was placed on the table on 6th November 1930.

Proposed damming of the Malapuzha in Palghat taluk.

* 558 Q.—Mr. R. M. Palat : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an estimate was made some years ago about the possibility of damming the Malapuzha in the Palghat taluk for irrigating a part of the Palghat and Walluvanad taluks ;

(b) if so,

(i) why the scheme was abandoned ;

(ii) what was the extent of land which would have been served by such a scheme ; and

(iii) what was the rate of interest expected on the capital invested ?

A.—(*a*) Yes, a rough estimate was made.

(*b*) (i) The investigation of this project has been postponed till the requirements of areas more in need of protection have been attended to.

(ii) & (iii) No accurate estimate has been made

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the scheme has been abandoned or whether the Government have any intention of further considering it ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" It may be considered when the reasonable demands of other areas have been attended to."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask what the hon. Member means ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" There is heavier rainfall in these taluks than in other portions of the Presidency. It is more desirable to spend money on irrigation in areas which are in greater need of such protection, than on these two taluks of Palghat and Walluvanad. The amount of money at our disposal is limited and we have to spend it on other projects."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether this is not a productive scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" We have to spend our money on other parts of the Presidency first."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether the Government cannot proceed with the scheme with loan funds ?

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G Campbell :—" We cannot at present borrow any money from the Government of India ; nor can we get money from any other source."

Refusal of water-supply to lands in deltaic areas.

* 559 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state why Government refuse water to lands in the deltaic areas which are included 'temporarily' under wet ayacut or which though dry according to the classification have, as a rule, never been refused Government water for irrigation till now ?

A.—The Government have passed no such orders.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Sir, the matter is very serious. May I know whether the hon. Member is not aware that Revenue Divisional Officers have, as a matter of fact, refused water to these lands on political grounds ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I am not aware of that ; I can imagine that the ryots might have been informed that water would be withheld if the taxes are not paid."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the Government will issue instructions to the officers concerned, in view of the recent settlement ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

[12th March 1931

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask why the Government should refuse water to these people, when the Government get a return in the shape of cess ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" There is no reason why Government should supply water when, there is reason to believe that the ryots have no intention of paying for the water if they get it."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether the Government will enquire whether water was refused on the definite ground that the parties concerned refused to pay taxes or on a mere suspicion that they were sympathisers of the civil disobedience movement ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I shall make enquiries."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether anybody stated that they were not going to pay taxes ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" Last year, suggestions were made to that effect."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" May I ask whether the Government are entitled to say that water would not be given to lands under wet ayacut ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—The question does not refer to wet lands."

Closure of canals in Godavari Western Delta.

* 560 *Q.*—Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government is aware that the Public Works Department closed the canals in Godavari Western Delta during the current month;

(*b*) whether the Government sanctioned water for second crop irrigation for the lands in the Godavari Western Delta, and if so, for how many acres ;

(*c*) whether there was any notice or proper notice to the ryots affected and to the owners of boats plying in the canals ;

(*d*) whether the Government have received any representation that the sudden closure of the canals is causing considerable inconvenience and loss to the public and that dislocation of business has taken place as a result thereof ;

(*e*) whether the work of repairing the Vijeyeswaram head sluice has been started ; and

(*f*) if so, why the repairing work was started before summer at such great public inconvenience ?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The Government have been informed that the main canal was closed for a few days, with the approval of the Collector.

(*b*) The area thrown open for second crop is roughly 134,000 acres.

(*c*) The ryots were not informed, because irrigation would not be affected, the closure being for a short period between harvesting of the first crop and commencement of the second crop. Boat owners were warned.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Yes.

12th March 1931]

(*f*) The local officers decided that it was in the best interests of the delta that there should be a short closure to enable improvements to the head sluice to be carried out, as the usual hot weather closure would not allow long enough for this.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—"May I know whether 60,000 acres were left uncultivated as a result of closure of the canals ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I have no information."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—"Will the information be called for ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I will make enquiries."

Working of the Potunur Project Canal.

*561 *Q.*—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the work of the Potunur Project Channel under Godavari Western Delta has not been commenced as yet though the lands were acquired and handed over to Public Works Department long ago ; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the owners of the lands that are proposed to be irrigated under this newly sanctioned channel have already lost about Rs. 25,000 being the interest on the inclusion fees paid by them in the year 1924 owing to the non-execution of the work ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—"May I know, Sir, when the report is expected ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I cannot give any definite date."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—"When was it called for ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"On the 2nd March."

Land Revenue

Appointment of Deputy Tahsildars in Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts.

*562 *Q.*—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the members of the several communities recruited as deputy tahsildars in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari since the passing of G.Os. Nos. 712 and 1254, Public, dated 2nd July 1929 and 30th November 1929, respectively, with the dates of appointments of each member in each of the three districts ?

A.—A statement [a] is annexed.

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 532 infra.

[12th March 1931

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know if the Government are aware that, from the statement annexed, the officers concerned have not paid any heed to the Government Orders issued on 2nd July 1929 and 30th November 1929 ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" I shall look into the matter ? "

Restoration of the old revenue district of North Arcot.

* 563 Q.—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee regarding the restoration of the old revenue district of North Arcot have not been carried into effect ;

(*b*) the departments of administration that have been taken away from the list of duties of Revenue officers and are administered by separate officials and non-officials since 1910 ;

(*c*) the amount of additional expenditure incurred in consequence thereof ; and

(*d*) the cost of Revenue establishment in the districts of Chittoor and North Arcot in 1910 and 1928-29, respectively ?

A.—(*a*) In order to counterbalance the creation of a new district in the Northern Circars consequent on the subdivision of the Kistna district, the Retrenchment Committee suggested the possibility of rearranging the Ceded districts and the districts surrounding them so as to reduce their number by one. In that connexion a proposal to dismember the Chittoor district and transfer the areas comprised therein to Chingleput, North Arcot and Anantapur districts was examined. The proposal was dropped as it was found that though geographically feasible, its effect would be to split up the linguistic area.

(*b*) (i) Income-tax.

(ii) Local Boards.

(iii) Audit of the accounts of the local boards.

(iv) Political duties rendered by the Collectors of Trichinopoly, Kurnool and Bellary in connexion with the Indian States of Pudukottai, Banganapalle and Sandur respectively.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have not the information.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" May I ask the amount spent on the Revenue establishment in the years 1910 and 1928-29 ? '

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—" It would be extremely difficult to work it out."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" Of one district ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :— " Yes, Sir. "

12th March 1931]

Public Service

Registration of associations of Government servants under the Indian Trade Unions Act of 1926.

* 564 *Q.*—Mr. C. Basu Dev : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 613 on 26th November 1928—

(*a*) whether final orders on the question of registration of associations of Government servants under the Indian Trade Unions Act of 1926, and on the revision of the rules governing the formation and conduct of such associations have been received from the Government of India ;

(*b*) if the answer be in the affirmative whether a copy of the orders will be placed on the table of this Council ; and

(*c*) if the answer be in the negative in what stage the matter stands at present ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to his question No. 447 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 27th February 1931.

(*c*) The Local Government have no information.

Representation of Nambudiris in the public services.

* 565 *Q.*—Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in the orders relating to communal representation in the public services any special provision has been made for the Nambudiri Brahmans ;

(*b*) whether the Government have recognized that Nambudiris are educationally far behind the other Brahmans in this Presidency ;

(*c*) what the percentage of Nambudiris in the public services is ;

(*d*) what percentage of the members of the community is literate in English ;

(*e*) the name of the community which is nearest to the Nambudiri community in respect of literacy in English ;

(*f*) what the percentage of members of such community in the public services is ; and

(*g*) why no concession has been granted to the Nambudiris in regard to their entertainment in the public service ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*), (*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) The Government have no information.

(*g*) The Government regret their inability to recognize subdivisions of the main communities for purposes of representation in the public services.

Medical

Accommodation for patients admitted into the hospitals in the City.

* 566 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total accommodation (beds) available in the various hospitals in the City of Madras maintained or subsidized by the Government, how

they are distributed in the various hospitals and what proportions are allotted to men, women and children for surgical and medical cases, giving information for Europeans and Indians separately in each case ;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied that the accommodation is sufficient for the total Madras population and for the mufassal immigrants who seek hospital treatment at Madras ;

(c) whether any records are maintained to show how many cases seek admission daily into the various hospitals, distributed according to European, Hindu and Muhammadan groups, men, women and children, and medical or surgical, and how many cannot be admitted for want of accommodation ;

(d) if no record has been maintained whether a record will be maintained for future guidance ;

(e) whether it is a fact that a large number of in-patients are not given beds and have to lie on mats on floors, and if so, whether they are Indians or Europeans ;

(f) whether it is a fact that patients get admission into the hospitals on the chits issued by the physicians and surgeons attached to the hospital, irrespective of the Resident Medical Officer's examination and irrespective of the order in which the patients seek admission ; and

(g) whether a waiting list is kept for the admission of patients and whether they are admitted according to the order of the date of seeking admission ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Public Health

Mahanandi water-supply scheme.

* 567 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government is aware of the strong public feeling against the Mahanandi water-supply scheme for the Nandyal Municipality ;

(b) whether Government have passed final orders as regards the scheme ; and

(c) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) Yes. Government have received representations for and against.

(b) No.

(c) The Government are examining the possibility of an alternative source of supply.

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—"May I know if it is a fact that, if the Mahanandi scheme is taken up, the interests of a large number of people will be affected ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"That is the complaint of the agriculturists."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"May I ask whether the Government have not yet made up their mind so far as this Mahanandi scheme is concerned ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"The Government are investigating alternative schemes ?"

12th March 1931]

Financial assistance to the villagers of Rudravaram for changing their locality.

* 568 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi: Will the hon the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the village of Rudravaram in the Nandikotkur taluk is highly malarial and that its population has been greatly reduced owing to deaths due to malaria; and

(*b*) whether Government will consider the question of financial assistance to the villagers to enable them to change the locality?

A.—(*a*) Rudravaram village in Sirvel taluk (Kurnool) is reputed to be highly malarious. It suffered from a severe outbreak of malaria during 1928. The result of the current census will show whether there has been any reduction in the population of the village.

(*b*) The Government are not aware of any proposal to shift the village. Any proposal received will be duly considered.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Expenditure on Judicial proceedings by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 569 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many proceedings before Civil Courts to which the Hindu Religious Endowments Board was a party in this Presidency, the Board failed;

(*b*) what was the total amount of costs awarded to the Board for Hindu Religious Endowments out of the funds of religious institutions in each of the years, in the proceedings in which the Board so failed; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to amend the section in the Endowments Act relating to costs in such a way as to prevent the Board from backing up frivolous contentions, without fear of any loss or risk to itself?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Government have no information in the matter.

(*c*) No.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I enquire whether the hon. Minister will call for the information, in view of the fact that a large number of frivolous contentions have been put forward by the Board, they have lost many cases instituted in Civil Courts, and the institutions are asked to be paid their costs incurred by their putting the frivolous contentions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"The Board is bound under the Act to go to the Court and to recover the contribution payable to it, when it is not paid. It is for the Court to decide whether the allegations are frivolous or not."

Recovery of contributions from temples in South Kanara.

* 570 Q.—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that executions have been filed to recover contributions from the temples in South Kanara having an income of Rs. 10 or Rs. 20;

(b) if so, against how many such petty temples executions have been filed by the Board within the last ten months; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the costs of execution, etc., ordered to be paid by such temples exceed in several cases the annual income of the temples?

A.—Government have no information

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I ask whether the hon. Minister will call for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"I do not know what purpose will be served."

Financial position of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 571 Q.—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what are the liabilities of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board at present, and what the Government propose to do to keep the Board going in the near future?

A.—The Board owes Government a sum of Rs. 3,52,500 exclusive of interest. In order to improve its finances Government are considering the question of amending the Act so as to permit of recovery of the contributions due to the Board as an arrear of land revenue.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Government expect to get back the amount lent to the Board and, if so, when?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"When the Board is able to collect its arrears."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know the amount that has to be collected by the Board and whether this amount will cover the loan that has been granted to the Board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"More than 5 lakhs."

Agriculture

Agricultural model farms in the Presidency.

* 572 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the number of agricultural model farms now existing in this Presidency and the places where they are situated?

A.—There are no agricultural model farms.

12th March 1931]

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether the Government feel the need for agricultural model farms ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" No, Sir."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I enquire whether the Government have got farms of their own and whether any portion of them is devoted to the purpose of agricultural model farms ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Research is done on the farms but any practical demonstration is done on the ryots' lands; therefore there is no necessity for model farms."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Am I to understand that the Government make some distinction between agricultural model farms and demonstration farms ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I enquire how many demonstration farms there are ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I ask whether demonstration farms are not intended to serve as model to the ryots to copy ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" It is so intended."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know whether there are no agricultural model farms ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" There are no such farms as *model* farms."

Registration

Number of Oriya sub-registrars in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration.

* 573 Q.—Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many clerks in the grade of sub-registrars there are in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration, Madras;

(b) how many of them belong to the different communities in the Presidency; and

(c) how many of them are Oriyas ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have called for information.

Recruitment of sub-registrars in the Registration department.

* 574 Q.—Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many reserve sub-registrars there are in the Presidency at present;

(b) how many of them are qualified to be sub-registrars;

(c) how many of the reserve sub-registrars were confirmed as sub-registrars from July 1, 1930, up to date;

(d) how many of them are still in the reserve list and how long since;

[12th March 1931

(*e*) how many people were promoted from clerical staff to the sub-registrars' grade from July 1, 1930, up to date in preference to reserve sub-registrars ;

(*f*) why Messrs. N. Jagannatha Rao and S. Brahmayya, two Brahmans, were appointed as clerks in the two vacancies in the Registration department in the Ganjam district in violation of the rules regulating the recruitment of subordinate services ;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that Messrs. S. Brahmayya and N. Jagannatha Rao, two Brahmans, were confirmed as clerks in the two vacancies in the Ganjam district in spite of the recommendation of the District Registrar of Ganjam that a Brahman and a non-Brahman acting as clerks in the Ganjam district should be confirmed in the two vacancies ;

(*h*) why Mr. S. Brahmayya, a junior acting clerk in the Registration department in the Vizagapatam district, was confirmed in the Ganjam district as clerk in preference to better qualified acting clerks in the Ganjam district ;

(*i*) whether the Government have fixed the percentage of sub-registrars to be recruited from the clerical staff and the percentage to be filled up by direct recruitment ; and

(*j*) if not, whether they propose to do so ?

A.—(*a*) Seventy-seven.

(*b*) *to* (*h*) The Government have called for information.

(*i*) No.

(*j*) The question is not under consideration of Government.

Veterinary

Opening of a Veterinary dispensary at Tenkasi.

*575 *Q.*—A. M. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he is aware that there is no veterinary dispensary at Tenkasi ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that rinderpest and other cattle diseases have been prevalent in Tenkasi and its surrounding villages during the last five years and more ;

(*c*) what was the total number of cattle that were attacked by such diseases and the number that died during the last five years ;

(*d*) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to combat the cattle diseases in Tenkasi and its surroundings ; and

(*e*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to open a veterinary dispensary at Tenkasi ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The whole of Tenkasi taluk was free from rinderpest till March 1927. It was during the official year 1927–28 that rinderpest broke out in a virulent form in that taluk. The disease was moderately severe in 1928–29. Foot-and-mouth disease prevailed in some of the villages during 1927–28 and 1929–30. No other contagious diseases prevailed in Tenkasi and its surrounding villages within a radius of six miles.

12th March 1931]

(c) A statement[a] showing the total number of cattle which were affected by the diseases and the number that died during the last five years in the Tenkasi taluk is appended.

(d) About 5,200 inoculations by serum alone method and 511 inoculations by serum simultaneous method were performed against rinderpest in the taluk. Inoculation by serum alone method was undertaken to combat actual outbreaks of rinderpest by running camps in villages during the major part of the official year 1927–28, but towards the close of the year and subsequently, serum simultaneous method was adopted. The ryots were also advised on the measures of segregation of infected animals, disinfection of sheds, burial of carcasses, treatment, etc. Forty-three cases of animals affected with foot-and-mouth disease were treated and advice to ryots regarding preventive measures was also given.

(e) The question of opening a veterinary dispensary at Tenkasi or posting a separate Touring Veterinary Assistant Surgeon with headquarters at the place will be considered.

Education

Better education of the Vellala Gounders in Salem and Coimbatore districts.

* 576 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken or propose to take for the better education of the Vellala Gounders in Salem and Coimbatore districts ?

A.—None.

Consolidation and concentration of elementary schools.

* 577 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the measures taken or intended to be taken by the Government for the consolidation and concentration of elementary schools ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 740, Education, dated 23rd April 1930, placed at the disposal of the Press and to the answer to his question No. 439.

Prevention of the premature withdrawal of children from school.

* 578 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(a) whether any steps have been taken to prevent the withdrawal of children prematurely from school ; and

(b) if so, how far the Government have been successful in lengthening the duration of their school life ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No 284 at the meeting of Legislative Council held on the 30th January 1931.

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 533 infra.

[12th March 1931

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether the Government have included any provisions in the proposed Elementary Education Bill in regard to this matter ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" The Bill proposed will aim at securing the objects which the hon. Member has in view."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know in what way it is proposed to secure this object ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" By providing for the prevention of withdrawal of children prematurely from schools, as mentioned in the hon. Member's question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know what was the answer of the Government in regard to the question referred to in the answer here ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" The answer to the question referred to in the answer here was that the question of the amendment of the Elementary Education Act was under consideration and that provisions would be made in the amending Act for things like this."

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION.

Release of Prisoners under Civil Disobedience movement.

*Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Sir, may I ask, with your permission, a short notice question of the hon. the Law Member, as to why persons who have been convicted to imprisonment under the civil disobedience movement have not yet been released, although orders to that effect seem to have been received from the Government of India so long ago as the 6th of this month ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" With reference to this question, I may say, Sir, that lists were urgently called for and are being examined in the office. As far as I remember now, telegraphic orders have been sent out for the release of prisoners confined in Berhampur, Rajahmundry, Salem, Madura, Cannanore, Vellore, Cuddalore, the Penitentiary here, the Central Jail at Bellary and the Alipuram Jail at Bellary. Most of them must have been released by this time or they will be released in the course of this day."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether it is a fact that the Government have referred this question to various convicting Magistrates to find out under what sections these prisoners were sentenced ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" In some cases, this had to be done."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" What was the reply received from the Magistrates ? "

12th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not remember the replies, because many Magistrates convicted these prisoners and although the information has been received, it is not possible for me to remember all these things."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know why the Government of Madras took such a long time for releasing these persons when other provinces took immediate steps in the matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I repudiate the suggestion made by my friend that the Government of Madras have been guilty of any delay. No delay whatever has taken place and they have been extremely prompt. They called for information at once by telegram; they have been sending out instructions by telegram; and I may tell my friend that in this Presidency, unlike in some other provinces, these civil disobedience prisoners, have been confined in several jails. I believe I am subject to correction that in Bombay most of these prisoners were confined in Poona. The Government have not been guilty of any delay whatever."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what is the cause of the delay if prisoners are confined in several jails instead of in one jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not admit that there has been any delay at all."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know, Sir, how many prisoners have been released so far and how many remain yet to be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is impossible for me to say that now; but I think the majority have been released already. With reference to the prisoners that are confined in the Alipuram Jail, I understand that there is a large number there, more than about 400; and I believe that my office here has received information that by reason of difficulties in providing accommodation on the railways, they are being released in batches. Even they must have been, by now, released."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether Mr. Annapurnayya has been released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"So far as I can say now from memory, Mr. Annapurnayya is not one of the civil disobedience prisoners, and even apart from that, he was guilty of strong incitement to violence. So, I believe he will not be released under this order of the Government of India."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know how many civil disobedience prisoners are considered to come under the category of incitement to violence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is with reference to this question that the examination of each case has become necessary. The case of each prisoner will be examined to see whether that prisoner is guilty of violence or not."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Is Mr. Annapurnayya's case also under examination?"

[12th March 1931

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"As far as I remember, his case has been examined. In the first place, he is not a civil disobedience prisoner and so he does not come under the order of the Government of India. I have already given other reasons."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know if he was not sentenced after the civil disobedience movement was started?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"No."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—"How many days more will it take for the Government to complete this enquiry or examination?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I cannot give any definite promise, but that will be done expeditiously."

Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari :—"May I know if there is any evidence to show that seditious speeches were delivered by Mr. Annapurnayya?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"Mr. Annapurnayya was guilty of sedition under section 124-A, as I stated. He was not a civil disobedience prisoner. As far as I remember, he was guilty of strong incitement to violence."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"May I know what 'incitement to violence' means? Is it going to be considered under the section under which the person is charged or is it going to be a question apart from the offence with which the prisoner is charged?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"As a matter of fact, I am not bound to consider his case in connexion with this order of the Government of India, because he is not a civil disobedience prisoner."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether there are many instances similar to that of Mr. Annapurnayya where there had been convictions before the civil disobedience movement started?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—'I think there are only very few cases like that."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"If so, will the Government consider all the cases, so that they can complete the work which has been happily begun elsewhere?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I am sorry I cannot say anything definitely."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—"I am not referring to individuals. I should like to know whether Government as a matter of general policy are going to consider cases with reference to the nature of offences with which people are charged, or on extraneous circumstances as to whether offenders incited people to violence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—"That question does not arise, Sir, in connexion with the present order of the Government of India, as I stated more than once."

12th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Is the offence of Mr. Annapurnayya worse than the offence of many other ordinary prisoners under the civil disobedience movement ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I am afraid that Mr. Annapurnayya's offence is worse than the offence of the ordinary civil disobedience prisoner."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Having regard to the instances of prisoners in other provinces who have been released in pursuance of the Government of India order, may I know if the hon. the Law Member will be pleased to review—if identical cases have occurred in other provinces—the case of Mr. Annapurnayya also ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I do not admit the correctness of the premises of my friend, and so the second part of the question does not arise."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" Is sedition an offence necessarily leading to violence, according to the Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It depends upon the nature of the offence for which each particular person is convicted."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" I ask the question whether sedition under section 124-A of the Penal Code is an offence necessarily involving violence ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Not necessarily ; but sometimes it does."

Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari :—" May I know whether the Government propose to go behind the judgments of the courts and the contents of such judgments and look into the speeches delivered by the prisoners ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari :—" Then, what is the basis, Sir, on which the Government are going to judge whether Mr. Annapurnayya is guilty of inciting people to violence ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" If my friend has been listening to the answers I have been giving, he would have understood that he is not one of the prisoners included in the present category."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Police

Recruitment of women to the Police department.

579 Q.—Mr. K. Koti Reddi : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have investigated into the desirability and practicability of entertaining women in the Police department especially with regard to the administration of the Children Act and the Act for the Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic ?

[12th March 1931

A.—Yes, and are of opinion that the employment of women police in this Presidency is neither expedient nor necessary at present.

Alleged beating of merchants at Gudivada by the police on 15th February 1931.

580 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Circle Inspector of Police at Gudivada entered the houses of some merchants at Gudivada on the 15th instant and beat them for their having closed their shops in memory of the late Pandit Motilal Nehru;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that this officer has behaved in this way on several occasions in the past; and

(*c*) whether on 8th February 1931, he beat the under-trial prisoners of Angalur who were arrested in connexion with a procession on the occasion of the death of Pandit Motilal Nehru?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Civil Justice

Proposed change in the jurisdiction of the Devakottah Sub-court.

581 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are contemplating any change in the jurisdiction of the Devakottah Sub-court by transferring certain portions of it to Sivaganga;

(*b*) whether they have ascertained the extent to which the people of Devakottah will be inconvenienced by such a transfer;

(*c*) whether the question of the location of the Sub-court at Karaikudi or Tiruppattur has been considered and why they are considered to be less suitable than Sivaganga; and

(*d*) whether the views of the District Judge of Ramnad and the local people were obtained on this matter?

A.—(*a*) *& first part of* (*c*) No.

(*b*) *second part of* (*c*) *&* (*d*) Do not arise.

Hydro-Electric Schemes

Progress and scope of the Hydro-Electric scheme in Papanasam.

582 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what progress has been made in regard to the Hydro-Electric scheme in Papanasam (Tinnevelly district) up to now; and

(*b*) whether the Government have investigated the question as to how far the said scheme will materially improve the irrigation facilities in the Tambraparani area (Tinnevelly district) and with what result?

12th March 1931]

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the press communiqué issued on 19th June 1928 (G.O. No. 1565 W.) and to the answer given to question No. 92 at the meeting of the Council on the 4th September 1928. No further progress has been made with the scheme.

(*b*) The question has not yet been investigated.

Floods

Supply of paddy seeds in flood-affected areas in Tanjore district.

583 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued instructions to the district revenue officers in the Tanjore district to advance paddy seeds and grant loans to poor mirasidars to facilitate recultivation of their lands in those villages which have been very seriously damaged by the floods;

(*b*) whether such instructions have been carried out;

(*c*) if so, in what villages; and

(*d*) whether the Government will have objection to instruct the seed breeding farms to supply seeds to flood-affected areas in preference to others?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) No. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 6 on page 5 of the paper entitled 'A survey of the floods which occurred in the Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore and Nilgiri districts in October 1930,' copies of which have been laid on the Council Table.

(*d*) Instructions to this effect are now being issued to district officers.

Irrigation

Closing of breaches in the Tanjore district.

584 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the breaches caused by the floods in the Tanjore district have been completely closed by the Public Works Department authorities;

(*b*) if not, why not; and

(*c*) whether the Government will take necessary steps to close the remaining breaches immediately?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The report[a] of the Superintending Engineer, Tanjore Circle, on the subject is laid on the table.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 533 infra.

[12th March 1931

Repayment of amount spent by mirasidars in repairs to breaches in the Tanjore district.

585 Q.—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any information as to whether the amount spent by some of the mirasidars themselves in the Tanjore district in closing the breaches has been repaid to them by the Public Works Department as already promised; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to take steps to order the repayment of the amount to the individuals concerned without further delay?

A.—(*a*) Claims amounting to Rs. 40,000 had been received up to 23rd February 1931 and Rs. 28,000 had been paid. It is understood that these sums include claims and payment for work done by mirasidars.

(*b*) The Government see no need to issue special orders.

Action taken on the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee.

586 Q.—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the several recommendations of the Cauvery Committee that have been carried out; and

(*b*) what are the recommendations that have not been carried out yet; and what steps the Government propose to take to give effect to such recommendations in the near future?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 553.

Repairs to the Marandai channel in Tinnevelly district.

587 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long the Marandai channel (Tinnevelly district) has been in need of extensive repairs and whether, when and how often estimates have been prepared and submitted to the Government for repairs;

(*b*) whether the Engineering authorities concerned have insisted upon the urgency of taking up the repairs early and whether the Revenue authorities have also informed the Government of valuable crops failing frequently for want of adequate water-supply;

(*c*) whether the unrepaired and silted up condition of the Marandai channel is a source of danger to the Manur channel (Tinnevelly district);

(*d*) why Marandai channel has not been preferred for repair;

(*e*) what steps the Government have taken and intend to take to mitigate the water grievances of the ryots supplied by the Marandai channel; and

(*f*) when the repairs to Marandai channel will be undertaken by the Government and finished?

12th March 1931]

A.—(*a*) The channel is reported to have been in bad order for many years. Estimates for improvements and repairs were prepared in 1905 and 1913, but were not submitted to Government as the Uthumalai estate and the inamdar of Vellegal refused to contribute their share of the expenditure.

(*b*) The Collector reported in 1928 that repairs were urgently needed.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The estimate for the improvements to Manur channel were submitted first.

(*e*) & (*f*) Proposals for improvements and repairs to the anicut and channel are under the consideration of Government.

Straightening of the Nagaram South drain in Repalle taluk.

588 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any proposals to straighten the Nagaram South drain in Repalle taluk, Guntur district;

(*b*) if the answer to clause (*a*) is in the negative, whether they would be pleased to call for the information and inform the House at what stage the matter stands;

(*c*) what is the object of this proposal; and

(*d*) when the Government propose to give effect to this proposal?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have called for a report.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

III.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

* The hon. the President:—" I have to announce that the under-mentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on the dates mentioned against each:—

The Madras Amending Act, 1930 ... ... 8th January 1931."

The Madras Civil Courts (Amendment) Act. 10th January 1931."

IV.—DRAFT RULE UNDER SECTION 305 (1) OF THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Sir, I move—

That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the Governor acting with Ministers under sub-section (1) *of section* 305 *of the Madras District Municipalities Act,* 1920,

(Madras Act V of 1920), amending Schedule IV to the said Act be approved:—

Draft Rule.

(i) In rule 18 of the said Schedule (i) in sub-rule (1), for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time, the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted;

(ii) in clause (b) of the same sub-rule, for the word 'percentage' the words 'percentage or percentages', for the word 'prescribe' the word 'determine' and for the words 'the business', the words 'such business' shall be substituted;

(iii) in sub-rule (2)—

(a) for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time, the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted;

(b) for the words 'transaction of business' the words 'transaction of such business' and for the words 'turnover of the business' the words 'turnover of such business' shall be substituted; and

(c) for the words 'prescribed under' the words 'referred to in' shall be substituted; and

(iv) in sub-rule (3) for the words 'any other business' in the first paragraph the words 'any other business except money lending' shall be substituted.'

"Sir, the District Municipalities Act was amended recently and according to the amendment, the idea was to abolish companies tax and to make companies also liable to profession-tax. Under the old Act, the companies were liable to pay at a certain rate based upon their capital. If the capital of the company was a certain amount, then it had to pay tax at a certain rate, and if it was another amount, the rate was a different rate. That provision was abolished and the companies were classed along with others who were taken to be carrying on a business, as liable to pay a profession-tax on the turnover. Rule 18 (3) of the District Municipalities Act prescribes on what principles the turnover of a company should be calculated. One principle there is that if a company transacted business exclusively in one area and if it is assessed to income-tax in respect of the business carried on in that area, the taxing officer will have to assess on the basis of income adopted for income-tax; but in cases where the company carried on business in more than one area or where the company is not assessed to income-tax, then the turnover has to be ascertained in each case for purposes of profession-tax. The rules provide that on the turnover a certain percentage should be charged, as representing the income which could be said to be the general profits on the business of the company. On the income so ascertained, the company is to be taxed

12th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

according to rates laid down. That is, if the company had an income of Rs. 60,000 then a certain amount is charged; if it was more, then another rate is charged; and so on. Therefore, we have had to examine cases to decide the percentage. The section requires that the percentage shall be prescribed by the Government and should be approved by the Legislative Council. In pursuance of that requirement, I am bringing a second amendment which I propose to move. So far as that is concerned, when we examined the proposals, we found that if we charged a uniform percentage upon all turnover from the lowest to the highest, it would act very hard upon business in which the turnover is more than, say, Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 60,000. Because, there may be a small business for which you may charge two or three per cent, but if there is a big business where the turnover is, say, more than Rs. 1 lakh, the percentage of two or three per cent will be unduly harsh. At any rate, it will be much more than what the old Act provided for. In view of that, the question was examined as to whether in prescribing the percentage, the Government was entitled to prescribe various percentages on a graded scale, so that on small turnover the percentage may be high and in the case of bigger turnover, the percentage may be smaller. We consulted the Advocate-General in this matter and he expressed a doubt that as the word ' percentage ' used in the rule, it may not be open to the Government to propose different rates of percentage according to the amount of income. I am taking advantage in this amendment, to introduce the words ' percentage or percentages ' in place of the word ' percentage ' in the rule, to enable the Government to propose varying percentages according to the amount of turnover. You will also find, Sir, from the next motion that I propose to recommend different percentages for the approval of this Council, having regard to the total turnover. That is one main amendment affected by this draft rule.

" The second amendment is this: The rule provides for ' such percentages as may be prescribed '. The word ' prescribed ' is defined to be ' prescribed under the rules made under this Act '. Under the Act, rules have to be made by the Government, they have to be published for public criticism, and after the lapse of six weeks, they have to be confirmed by the Government after taking into consideration any objections or criticisms made by the various local bodies and interests concerned. That is the only course in which the rule-making powers of the Government are to be exercised. But in this respect, it is not the Government that is responsible; the final authority is really the Legislative Council itself, so that the normal procedure applicable to rule-making powers of the Government under other Acts will not strictly apply in the present case. Therefore, the word ' prescribe ' in the section is taken away and the word ' determine ' is put in. Once the Legislative Council sanctions the rate of percentage, it will no longer be open to the Local Government to vary them; that is why I am proposing this amendment. Otherwise, complications and long delays will occur; for instance, certain percentages may be fixed by the Local Government, they would have to be published for criticism and then perhaps taking into consideration

any possible objections and criticisms, they will have to be altered, and even then they will not be final, because the voice of the Legislative Council will be the final voice in this matter.

11-45 a.m. "The third point is this. When we examined the proposals with regard to arriving at a percentage, we came across certain difficulties with regard to money-lending. In regard to business firms, where a large amount of grain is stocked, large quantities are bought and large quantities are sold, we tried to find out what is the method we have to adopt in the case of such firms. Usually, we take only one transaction into account in arriving at profits, but we cannot take into consideration the transaction of purchasing and selling twice over. All that is provided in the rules. When we considered this question, it looked as though the principle of turnover could not be applied in the case of money-lending, because if we find there is a business of money-lending where the turnover is more than a lakh, we have to charge one per cent. Secondly, it was also represented on behalf of the money-lenders that the rate of five per cent was even higher, because the actual net income will be much less. They also press that the usual procedure adopted in the case of money-lending transaction was the amount of interest they actually receive and not on the turnover of the amount lent and re-lent during the year. The principal that is lent would not be the proper indication of the actual interest earned by the business; but on the other hand it is the actual interest earned that must be taken into account in such cases. Therefore, it is proposed to exclude money-lending business and the principle of turnover is confined to business in grain and other articles where the turnover will be a suitable method.

"These are the three amendments that I am asking this Council to sanction. The first amendment deals with the turnover of a business, i.e., of any business other than money-lending. The second amendment asks for the substitution of the words 'percentage or percentages' for the word 'percentage' and the third is for the substitution of the word 'determine' for the word 'prescribe'. The other amendments are merely consequential."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"What is the percentage?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"There is no question of percentage. Under the old Act there was no question of percentage, but it depended upon the total capital of the company. If a company is a registered one, if the capital is one lakh, the amount of tax per half-year was Rs. 110 and if the capital is higher, a certain amount is fixed and so, there is no question of percentage at all, but it depended upon a certain gradation of the amount of capital involved. Now, in place of the capital basis, it is proposed to take the turnover into consideration and then prescribe the percentage of the turnover as representing the income of the company and on that basis to classify the incomes as provided in the Act. If the half-yearly income is more than Rs. 21,000, the maximum half-yearly tax will be Rs. 275 and if the half-yearly income is more than Rs. 18,000, but does not exceed

12th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

Rs. 21,000, the tax will be Rs. 225 and so on it goes. If the half-yearly income is Rs. 150 but does not exceed Rs. 200, the tax will be annas eight. If the turnover is ascertained on the principle I have stated, the particular income will be taken and the particular class under which that income will be determined and the business will be taxed accordingly under rule 16. That is the object of this rule.

"I am making this proposal now because, so far as this half-year is concerned, the taxes are collected under the old provisions of the Act, because the amended Act came into force only in August last and could not be given effect to for the second-half of 1930-31, as the percentage had to be made and the Legislative Council has to approve of the percentage. It is therefore necessary that the Legislative Council should decide this question and make the rule with a view to enable provisions regarding profession-tax to be given effect to from 1st April 1931. If we do not do it in this session of the Council, it will not be possible to collect the taxes. For these reasons, I move that the rule be agreed to by the Council."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second the motion, Sir."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have no doubt that the rule will be a salutary one, but I think it is not proper to rush the matter through like this. I find that the percentage proposed in this rule is just the reverse of the percentage adopted in the case of income-tax. For instance, in the case of income-tax it is progressive, but in the present case it is the reverse. I do not see any reason why in the case of business also, the rate of taxation should not be progressive and why the rate of taxation should not be increased as the income increases. The hon. the Chief Minister has not made this point quite clear. I therefore think that it would be very reasonable if the hon. the Chief Minister would postpone the question and consider the thing at a later date before the close of the session. If this is accepted, I would suggest that the matter may be referred to a committee which should go into the question and evolve principles which should be satisfactory and acceptable to all sections of the House. I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will accept this suggestion and will take this House into his confidence and will after meeting the members in a conference, arrive at a satisfactory solution of this question and then have it passed before the close of this session. I therefore move—

'*that the consideration of the motion be adjourned to the next available day during the present session*'."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I second the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I think I must support the motion for the adjournment of the consideration of this question. The principle enunciated by the hon. the Chief Minister is a debatable one. I do not think it follows that as capital diminishes the income proportionately increases. It is on that principle he has framed the

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [12th March 1931

schedule. If a man runs a business with a capital of Rs. 10,000 and a turnover of Rs. 60,000 he is not likely to earn Rs. 3,000—he will, probably earn less; but the man who has got one lakh and makes it do business for six times that amount in a year, I am sure, will earn much more than the percentage for which he is given credit in this amendment. I think the whole matter requires to be looked into carefully before arriving at a decision."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, on a point of information. This Legislative Council is the final authority for determining the rules framed under the Local Boards Act. At the same time the gravity of the matter requires careful consideration. I therefore request the hon. the Chief Minister to invite public opinion and the opinion of the business community that will be affected by the Schedule, which the local boards are asked to carry out."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Sir, I must clear a few misapprehensions as to what is done. I requested some representatives who have business dealings and also some Members of this Council itself who represent Chambers of Commerce to help me in coming to a decision on this question. Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar, a Member of this House, was also invited as representing the money-lending business. We discussed the whole matter and in fact I may say the percentage proposed has met with the approval of the body that met to consider this question. That body was of opinion that the fixing of percentage in regard to money-lending business would be difficult to apply. Anyhow, I am not anxious to avoid any further looking into the matter, but the only anxiety that I have is that we should get this through in this month alone; we have got only the 27th fixed for further demands. At least on that day, this must be passed. I am sure, if the House is so prepared and will agree to see that this question is taken up on that day, I, for my part, have no objection to postpone the consideration of this question. I can only say one or two things with regard to this. The principle of progressive taxation is already provided in the Act. But, it is clear that a man who does business with a small capital of Rs. 1,000 may get a relatively higher percentage of profit than a man who does business in lakhs of rupees, for he will get a lower percentage of profit. It was on that understanding that lower rates are provided in the case of business involving bigger investments, because where the turnover is greater, owing to speedy sales and speedy purchases, the percentage of profits will be less. It is that principle that you find in this amendment. But, I have no objection to leave the consideration of this question to the members and I will be thankful to any member who may suggest a better remedy."

* The hon. the President:—" I will put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is that—

> ' *the consideration of the motion be adjourned to the next available day during the present session* '."

The motion was carried.

V.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1930-31.

GRANT VI—IRRIGATION—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Grant VI—Irrigation—Reserved.*'

" Sir, this token grant is to enable the Government to carry out two urgent measures of repair in connexion with the protection of the left bank of the Kistna river. During last year, i.e., 1930, there was considerable erosion of the margin of the river at a place called Lankapalli and the distance between the actual margin of the river and the flood bank was considered to be dangerously small as it was reduced to about 150 feet. At another place also, Papavinasam, it was found that the distance between the margin and the flood bank was about 110 feet. It is therefore proposed to protect the margin to some extent by stone revetment and also to provide immediately a second line of defence by making a flood bank in the rear of the existing flood bank. The estimates for this purpose are expected to come to Rs. 74,000 for the first work, and Rs. 83,000 for the second work, in addition, Rs. 7,000 will be required for acquiring land. The whole cost will therefore be Rs. 1,64,000. Only a small portion of the work will be carried out during the present financial year, but it is necessary to begin work at once and we should acquire the land in order that the work may be completed during the next financial year before the flood season."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, I am afraid the hon. the Revenue Member has not furnished us with all the information which I think he could have done. He says for instance 'the balance of the estimated cost required for expenditure during 1931-32 will also be found by re-appropriation by postponing less urgent works.' In this connexion he could have said what works he is going to postpone and what works he considers urgent. I hope he will take us into his confidence before he rushes forward with the proposal now in hand, so that he may not find afterwards that those works which he does not consider to be urgent now are really urgent works which ought not to have been delayed." 12 noon.

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am not going to oppose the motion; but I think some information is necessary. The hon. the Revenue Member has told us that the margin of land at Lankapalli where the flood bank is to be diverted is about 100 feet and that at Papavinasam it is about 150 feet. If a margin of 100 feet is to be accepted as the minimum, then it will become necessary to undertake diversions in many other places that I know of. At Devarapalli, for instance, the margin is only 30 feet. With heavy and efficient stone revetment, diversions of the flood bank are generally unnecessary. I would suggest that the proposal for diversion of the flood bank may be dropped."

[12th March 1931

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid I cannot satisfy my friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar as to the works which will not be proceeded with in consequence of the execution of this very urgent work. We could not anticipate that this work would be necessary when the budget estimates were prepared. The scheme was adopted after an inspection made by the Superintending Engineer in November 1930; he recommended that very urgent measures must be taken to prevent erosion in the coming flood season.

" As regards Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar's suggestion I may say that in proposing this scheme we are acting only on the advice of our expert advisers; as I have already stated this scheme was brought forward only after personal inspection of the place by the Superintending Engineer. I will however communicate my hon. Friend's remarks to the Chief Engineer."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant VI—Irrigation—Reserved."

The motion was carried and the grant made.

GRANT XII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 37,400 under Grant XII—General Administration—Miscellaneous—Reserved.*'

" This demand is explained in full in the explanatory note; and it is said there that this sum is required to meet excess expenditure in connexion with refunds of certain claims put forward during the year. I do not think any further explanation is needed from me."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXI—MEDICAL—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

' *that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XXI—Medical—Transferred.*'

" This is for the purpose of giving the Government of India a sum of Rs. 6,111 towards the cost of the Drugs Enquiry Committee. In 1917 a resolution was passed in the Council of State asking that a committee be appointed to go into the question as to how far the sale of drugs can be controlled, whether drugs cannot be standardized and whether pure articles cannot be obtained. The Government of India

12th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

constituted the committee, and its proposed cost will be one lakh and ten thousand rupees. Of this amount one half is to be met by the Government of India and the other half by the several provincial governments in certain shares. To the share of this province falls the sum of Rs. 6,111; and the Government of India have asked us to place that amount at their disposal even while the committee is working. Hon. Members are aware that the committee have been working and collecting evidence in this province; and this is the amount this Government have to pay for the inquiry. Therefore I move the sum be granted."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, I take this opportunity for asking for some information about the committee. Looking at this note I find that one of the points it is asked to consider is to 'inquire into the extent to which drugs and chemicals of impure quality or defective strength . . . are imported, manufactured and sold in British India.' Now the point is this. If it is a question of testing the quality of made up chemicals to see whether they are up to the standard, I can understand that. I do not know how the committee is going to deal with the preparations of the indigenous system of medicine. If Government are put to a standard, I should request them not to fix it so high as to make it impossible for doctors of indigenous system of medicine to carry on their business. I hope the Committee will consider this matter carefully. This is a matter of some difficulty inasmuch as many of the doctors of the indigenous system of medicine are using only raw drugs. Hence to fix a standard in such a case is very difficult. And I would like the hon. the Minister to tell us how they are going to deal with this case."

* Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Mr. President, Sir, if the ex-Minister is justified in asking for information, my excuse for calling for more information is surely understandable. Sir, it is a pity that the Legislative Council should be approached only at the time when the amount is to be sanctioned. According to the explanatory note the committee was appointed in 1929; and only two years have passed before we are aware of the progress of the committee appointed by the Government of India. Even now we are not appraised of the actual work done by this committee, how many drugs were examined, what has been the result of their inquiries and whether any suggestion has been made in regard to Indian drugs; and to what extent the inquiry has been useful for the increase of the Indian system of medicine.

" The other day I was reading a note by the Principal of the School of Indian Medicine submitted to the Finance Committee of this Council; and it was also circulated to the Members of the Council. In the note he mkes some reference to the tropical school of Indian medicine; and he wants to know whether the researches of the committee I would be of practical benefit to the doctors who have to use these drugs. I do not know whether that school has anything to do with this committee;

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [12th March 1931

whether the researches carried on under the auspices of Dr. Chopra are different from the researches carried on by the committee. I am not even aware of the technical efficiency of the members of this committee to deal with such questions as these. As my friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar has shrewdly suspected, the committee may result in findings most unfavourable to Indian drugs which are in constant use in this country. Whether by contributing towards the cost of the committee we are going to invite criticism of the Unani and Ayurvedic doctors is a point on which I should like to have some light thrown by the hon. Chief Minister. Further I would submit this, that instead of contributing this sum to the Government of India, whether it would not be proper to allocate this money for the doctors who are engaged in the Indian system of medicine to carry on intensive research in our own Presidency and make the results of such researches useful to ourselves."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not believe that it will be right for the Government of India to expect Provincial Governments to contribute towards an expenditure, or rather for what might be likely to be a subject of the Central Legislature. It is most likely that a Bill might be brought before that body and passed into law. Sir, I do not believe that it will be right on the part of the Government of India to pass one piece of legislation for various systems of medicine obtaining in different parts of the country.

12-15 p.m. " Although the Unani system may be one in certain fundamentals in different parts of the province, I am sure that there are various ways in which this system is practised in various provinces. For instance, Sir, in the Madras Presidency the Unani system that is practised by the various Unani hakims is certainly different from what one finds in Northern India and Delhi; and different materials are used in different parts of India in different ways. If, as has been doubted by Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, it is the idea of the Government to suppress any indigenous system by means of this investigation and if they pass strictures on the methods adopted in the preparation of these medicines available in this country, what may happen is that medicines that are imported into this country will be given preference and they will have a better sale in this country. Therefore it is necessary that the Government of this province should take particular care with regard to this matter. As I said, I do not know whether it is necessary for a Provincial Government to contribute towards the expenditure to be incurred by the Government of India to prepare any legislation which will be central legislation."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Sir, so far as the enquiry itself is concerned, it is more a matter for the provinces than one of an all-India concern. But in the Council of State a resolution has been passed which the Government of India have accepted so that the whole matter may be gone into and the enquiry may be made not merely in one province but for all the provinces together. The committee was appointed to go into the question and

12th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

to make recommendations ; and whether, consequent on those recommendations, any legislation may be undertaken on an all-India basis or whether the provinces will be left free to undertake their own legislation, it is too early now to say. Therefore, Sir, the Government of India consulted the local Governments even before they took action, as to whether they should constitute a Committee and whether the local Governments will be prepared to bear half the cost if the Central Government bear the other half. This Government had agreed to it as also other local Governments and it was in pursuance of the general unanimity of all the povinces that this Committee has been appointed, and it may not be prudent now to refuse this grant.

" Secondly, Sir, some objections have been raised as to the scope of the enquiry of this Committee in regard to the indigenous drugs and as to whether, after all, their recommendations may not tend more to work adversely than in favour of these indigenous systems which are practised here. I have to say that it is not possible to say what the Committee's recommendations are going to be. Whether the question of indigenous drugs also should be considered is a matter that is left entirely to the Committee itself. The Committee consists of four members and they are authorized to co-opt other members also in various provinces. The members of the Committee are—

(1) Lieut.-Col. R. N. Chopra, Professor of Pharmacology, School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Calcutta, Chairman.

(2) The Rev. Father J. F. Caius, Pharmacologist at Haffkin's Institute, Bombay.

(3) Mr. H. Cooper, of Messrs. Stanistreet & Co., Manufacturing Chemists, Calcutta.

(4) Moulvi Abdul Matin Choudary, M.L.A.

They have also co-opted various members in various provinces, and the Committee, under the terms of reference, is entitled to take evidence on the questions stated and to issue a questionnaire to select persons and bodies and to call as witnesses those who desire to be examined, and so on. I am sure that people who are interested in the various systems of medicine would take trouble to place their views before the Committee. When the recommendations of the Committee are published, whether there is anything for this Council or for the members interested to take action upon separately so far as this province is concerned, is a question which may be considered later on. In these circumstances, Sir, I request that the Council will sanction this grant."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXVII—INDUSTRIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,01,000 *under Grant XXVII—Industries—Transferred.*'

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [12th March 1931

This is to provide for additional allotment for adjustment of expenditure incurred by the Industrial Engineering Workshop on behalf of the pumping and boring branch of the Industries department."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar:—" Sir, this is a very large additional grant, and from the explanatory memorandum it would appear that in fact there were more deep borings made and probably more work has been done. The hon. the Minister would have done well to inform us what is the additional income that has been earned by supplying these tools or instruments, and what exactly he expects in the coming years. When a large investment is proposed to be made, we must know whether actually there was a demand for this service, and what is the return he expects in future years, and I hope the hon. Minister for Industries will let us know these particulars."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" I should like to follow my hon. Friend, Sir, with a request for additional information and additional scrutiny. Sir, in the explanatory note furnished to us it is said that a considerable amount of the demand now made is intended to equip with the necessary accessories some of the power drills and pumping sets now in use. I should like the hon. the Minister for Industries to find out, if he will, how many of these instruments which he has at his disposal are generally at work. I think that if he will go into the question, he will find that as a rule very many of these are left idle. If, for example, he has 20 or 30 power drills and as a matter of fact only 10 or 12 are actually at work, I would rather scrap half a dozen of the other drills and with the money saved equip the remaining drills with the absolutely essential parts, so that work which is necessary may not stop. I know as a matter of fact that when steel parts are lost, it takes a long time for the necessary machinery to be brought to the place and the defect to be set right. I would suggest therefore that in choosing these accessories the hon. Minister for Industries will bear in mind that the department should keep a reserve stock with each drill or plant at work, so that if anything goes wrong he may have the necessary material with which to set right the defects. As a matter of fact, out of so many drills and power drills which are supposed to be at his disposal, only a very very limited number are actually at work all through the year."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:— " Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I did not make any observations in support of my motion because I thought that the explanatory note that has been circulated contained all the information that might be considered at all relevant for this purpose, and further because, Sir, the demand was not for any fresh allotment of money but was only for adjustment of expenditure that has been already incurred, from one head to another. I thought, Sir, that was a matter which did not require much argument in support of it. However, as my hon. Friends have raised one or two points, I shall just say a word or two in reply. So far as the pumping and boring section is concerned, I am glad

12th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

to say—and I suppose hon. Members who have spoken now will be equally glad—that it is not the purpose of the Government to make any money out of these pumping and boring sets. The pumping and boring sets are intended for use by the agriculturists at a very nominal rate of hire. It is about a fifth of the Government's cost and even less than a fifth of what would be charged by people who keep such pumping and boring instruments and ordinarily give them out for hire. So, I do not think, Sir, it is at all proper to look at the work of this pumping and boring section in terms of profit on the money spent. As a matter of fact, all these apparatus and materials that were furnished from the workshop were required for the purpose of the efficient working of the pumping and boring section. The expenditure has been already incurred. It was not adjusted to the profit and loss account of 1929-30, and in the case of this year also it has not been adjusted. When these amounts are adjusted to the appropriate head, there will remain about Rs. 1,01,000 for which there will be no budget provision. And all that is sought now is that the amount should be adjusted to the appropriate head. I shall certainly bear in mind the observations made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar whose remarks on a matter like this are, I am sure, of very great value."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXX—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Grant XXX—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred.*'

" Sir, the purpose of this grant has been explained at page 6 of the printed note circulated to hon. Members. A large number of works are under construction and they are expected to be completed. From the savings that are expected this year we propose to allot this amount so that by the end of the official year they will be completed. The works are all mentioned in the note. Three of them are in the West Godavari district, others in the South Arcot, Trichinopoly and other districts and some in the Vellore municipality."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I merely rise, Sir, to ask for some information. We are now in March, the end of the official year and the hon. the Minister is now coming forward with a demand for a grant for a number of these works, and it has also been stated that these works would be completed before the end of the official year. It seems to me that many of these works were started long ago. I want to know whether they were sanctioned in due course, and if so, where was the money for their being carried out. I find in the note that in some cases half of the estimated expenditure and in other the full estimated expenditure is proposed to be asked for. I should like to know why, if the estimates were sanctioned long ago,

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1931

should the Government come now before the House for that money? And I am not quite sure in spite of the assurance that is given that these works for which grant is now asked for would all be completed during the next few days before the official year comes to a close. I would therefore like to have some enlightenment from the hon. the Minister on this question."

12-30 p.m. * The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Sir, these were considered by the Finance Committee in December 1930. At the same time Government have seen that the amounts are spent by the local bodies. They informed them that they proposed to move a supplementary grant and asked them to go on with the works with this caution that the local bodies should meet the expenditure from their own funds if the Council does not sanction. The Government Order was issued on the 26th November. The works therefore have already been in progress. Government would therefore like this sum sanctioned by the Legislative Council as they have asked local bodies to go on with their works. Further these amounts are very small amounts and range from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000 and all the works could be finished as early as possible."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXXII—PENSIONS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 4,07,900 *under Grant XXXII—Pensions—Reserved.*'

" This demand provides for additional appropriation under pensions and commuted value of pensions. The reasons are stated in the explanatory note."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, I would request the hon. the Finance Member to be so good as to tell us whether he has reached the limit at least this year. Sir, if one observes the amount year after year there is an alarming rate of increase under this provision. I should like to know where we are going, whether we have reached the maximum likely to be incurred under this head or whether he would ask for more and more in the coming years. Let us have some idea of our commitments under this head."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" On the point which my Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar has put me, I am afraid I am not endowed with the power of prophecy. (A voice: By calculations.) No, even then I cannot tell you what the amount is going to be, as it will be based on the scale of pensions which may vary from time to time. I cannot say whether the limit has been reached or when it will be."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I make a remark only to explain further what Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar had in mind? The point here is that the Finance Member is coming up every year with increased demand for pensions. The point

12th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

raised is because you have sanctioned incremental scales of pay, we have not yet returned the maximum in pensions. At the time of retirement pension is calculated on the average of three years' emoluments. The point that I would like to know is whether we have so far reached anything like a maximum in pensions and if not when we will reach it."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I am afraid I cannot give that straightaway. It might be possible to work out some idea by a considerable amount of examination and calculation. If the hon. Member wishes to find it out I could have the matter examined. I cannot on the spur of the moment give him the information he desires."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXXVII—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I move—

'*that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 100.'

" This token demand provides for short-term loans to central co-operative banks at 7½ per cent interest per annum repayable in six months. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies writes to say that loans to the extent of 26 lakhs are awaiting disbursement at the Madras Central Urban Bank while the central banks are unable to grant loans because of shortage of funds. The Madras Central Urban Bank has applied for ten lakhs of loan to the Imperial Bank of India and the matter is under consideration by that Bank. The Registrar suggests that the Government may come to the rescue of these bodies and give a loan of ten lakhs, this amount to be distributed to the central banks direct. The agency would be the Deputy Registrar. The necessity for this loan is made clear because of the fact that in the Northern Circars the movement has come to a stagnation thus necessitating the Government help. That is one reason why Government is prepared to give a short-term loan. Sir, we propose to charge 7½ per cent for the reason that the Central Urban Bank are charging 7 per cent. We do not want to compete with any of these banks. That is why we are charging 7½ per cent and I hope the House will accept it."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—" I move—

'*to reduce the token demand of Rs.* 100 *for loans and advances by the Provincial Government by Re.* 1.'

" Sir, this is a very extraordinary grant so far as the co-operative societies are concerned. On account of the very large fall in the price of agricultural produce and on account of other temporary causes mentioned it has become necessary, Sir, for some outside help to come to us. Unfortunately the Government of India has raised its rate for borrowing to 6 per cent. We in the district banks have been getting money by way of deposits at 4½ and 5 per cent. On account of the

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [12th March 1931

Government we are now offering 6 per cent. The Coimbatore Bank has suffered very severely to the extent of six or seven lakhs and the District Board who have been depositing their money with us have now got Government paper to the extent of 8½ lakhs. That is the result of the action of the Government of India. Mainly on account of the very large fall in the price of agricultural produce we are not able to collect our dues. As a matter of business I would be the last person to say that Government should be the bankers to the co-operative societies. But in an emergency like this when the money available for business is not forthcoming as explained by the hon. Minister most of the banks have stopped their advances. Unfortunately the Imperial Bank has also withdrawn the help they have been giving to the movement. Only last year they began to withdraw the help they have been giving to the movement and they have been gradually decreasing the overdraft to several of these banks. So that to the tune of several tens of lakhs there has been a depletion. It is at this contingency that the help of the Government has been asked for and it is on that account—though ordinarily I am against that—that I support the demand. I do not see why in an emergency like this when help is asked for from Government by the co-operative societies on behalf of the agriculturists they should charge 1½ per cent more than the rate at which the Government borrows in the market. Well, Sir, not only that, they are helping the agriculturists directly at the rate of 6¼ per cent. For loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act they charge 6¼ per cent. Why this difference, Sir? It is not a very charitable way of doing things. For the loans the Government give to local bodies they charge 6½ per cent. Why this difference between the local bodies and the co-operative societies? There is absolutely no reason why the Government when they come to help the institution which is for the help of the agriculturists, as a special case, should now try to take advantage of this helpless state of things. That I have to submit is wrong. Looking from the other standpoint, viz., the standpoint of view of the district banks, the present proposal is very unfair. They are lending to primary societies at the rate of 7½ per cent. They are paying ½ per cent for supervision. In addition to that there is the usual administrative expenses which come to ¼ or ½ per cent. Hence they won't be able to get out of this money more than 6¾ per cent. So it is not fair from the standpoint of the Government, it is not fair from the standpoint of helping the agriculturist and it is not fair to the co-operative central banks to charge 7½ per cent.

12-45 p.m. "I know there are two matters which will be referred to on the other side. One is that the Madras Central Urban Bank which was charging till now only 6 per cent for their loans has raised its rate to 7 per cent. Well, Sir, what does it show? It only shows the difficulty that there is in finding money. That ought not to be the reason for the Government to raise the rate of interest. If anything, the Government should go to their help. The Government should not at all take advantage of this situation and charge a higher percentage.

12th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

They ought to find the money necessary for the central banks at the rate at which they were getting the same. Even the Madras Central Urban Bank was charging them till now only 6 per cent. Government propose to out-Herod Herod and charge 7½ per cent. It is most unfair. Also, Sir, it will be said that from next year they are going to charge the agriculturists something more than the rate of interest they were charging hitherto. That is a matter about which the Council will probably have to say something later on. There is absolutely no reason why the rate of interest should be raised from 6¼ per cent to such a high rate as 7½ per cent. Even the rate of interest which the local Government is paying to the Government of India is only 6½ per cent. Such being the case, no case has been made out for raising the rate of interest at which money is being lent to the poor agriculturists. The mere fact that a Government Order has been issued some time ago, which has not been published and which is not yet known to the outside people, should not be taken as the basis for raising the rate of interest to the central banks. That would not be a proper thing at all. As I said already, even on the Government Order raising the rate of interest to the agriculturists, we will have something to say. For all these reasons, I request the hon. the Minister not to be satisfied with the *ipse dixits* of the Finance Department, but to fight and get money at 6½ per cent. I am sure he is there to represent our interests and not the interests of the Finance Department. He is there to fight for us, the co-operators. I hope he realizes the position, and will get us money at 6½ per cent, the rate that was recommended even by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, I second the motion moved by Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar. In the explanatory note on this demand, one of the causes for the shortage of funds is explained as the 'withdrawal of local board and individual deposits from co-operative banks largely owing to the failure to raise deposit rates in time.' Till recently, the central banks have been paying on deposits interest at rates ranging from 3¾ to 5½ per cent, and they were able to get money at these rates of interest. Now, because the Government of India are borrowing at the rate of 6 per cent, they have in a way entered into competition with these central banks, and this is partly responsible for the fact that the central banks are not able to attract funds as they used to do. By lending money to the central banks at 7½ per cent at a time of financial stringency like this Government will not really be helping these banks. The Townsend Committee on Co-operation recommended that the rate of interest on loans to primary societies should be reduced to 7½ per cent so that they might have a sufficient margin for working expenses and reserve funds. Accordingly all central banks have reduced their lending rate to 7½ per cent. Now, if they have to borrow at 7½ per cent, they have to enhance the rate of interest at which they give money to the primary societies, and, further, as this loan is granted by the Government only for a short period of six months they will have to exercise extra vigilance in giving

the loans and take care to see that they are recovered in time. That means they will have to incur extra expenditure in seeing that these loans are repaid within the time specified. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies also has recommended that this loan may be given at 6½ per cent. So, I request the Government to consider whether they cannot reduce to 6½ per cent the rate of interest on the loan they propose to give to the Central Banks and thus help them at a time of financial stringency.''

* Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar :—'' Sir, in opposing the amendment, I have only to say this much. It is true that the Central Banks are short of funds, and, as the hon. Member for Coimbatore said, it may be partly due to the Government of India having raised their borrowing rate to 6 per cent, which has taken away some money deposited in these Central Banks previously. Sir, the question of shortage of funds and the question of lower rates cannot go together. They say they are short of funds, and they also want that the rate of interest should be lowered. As a matter of fact, the Imperial Bank rate is 7 per cent to-day, and all banks and bankers that borrow from the Imperial Bank have to pay at bank rate or sometimes at 1 per cent above that rate. All bankers and money-lenders have therefore to charge something more than that rate. Even the Indian Bank is now charging 2 per cent over the bank rate to all bankers and the bankers who are carrying on business in this place have lent crores of money already on a certain understanding, i.e., at a rate which is probably 2 per cent above the bank rate. If these ten lakhs are lent at a cheaper rate to the Central Banks, what will happen is that people will go to the bankers and money-lenders saying that the co-operative societies are lending money at a cheaper rate, and will demand a lesser rate. These bankers will have necessarily to lower their rates while they have to pay a higher rate on their borrowed money. While it may be necessary to help co-operative societies on occasions like this, we should not at the same time enable them to compete against the ordinary banking business. While I am fully in support of the proposal to lend money to the co-operative societies I am not for reducing the rate to anything less than 7 per cent. Now, I understand that the hon. Minister has cooled down a bit and is willing to agree to 7 per cent. Sir, I will have no objection to this loan proposal if the rate is not brought down to anything less than 7 per cent, as otherwise it will be injurious to the banking trade of the country.''

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—'' Mr. President, if only my hon. Friend, Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar's advice was available to the Government at the time the co-operative movement was started, I am afraid we shall not have had anything to discuss to-day because there would be no co-operative societies to help. Well, Sir, I think there is a principle involved in this matter. The co-operative movement is in serious straits. They want money very badly and urgently, and I think co-operative banks should be helped by the Government at this

12th March 1931] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

time in all possible ways. Sir, I do not mind the Government charging a little more than what they have to pay when they borrow money. But to fix it at 1½ per cent more than the rate at which they are able to borrow seems to me to be a very unfair arrangement. If I may recall to the House—it is not a secret at all—I think in the year 1927 when Government had to advance money for the co-operative movement for building godowns and structures of that sort, the principle then agreed to was that the Government will advance the money at half per cent more than they were borrowing. If that is the principle once adopted, then, I think it has to be adhered to even now. What is the rate the Government are paying for the amount they borrow now ? If that is 6 per cent, they can only charge ½ per cent more than that, i.e., 6½ per cent, just to cover the miscellaneous and contingent expenditure incurred for these transactions. More than that, the Government have no moral right to claim.

"Again, Sir, let the House bear this in mind. It is now proposed to lend ten lakhs to the Central Banks. I have a shrewd suspicion that one of the reasons of the Government for doing so is to recover their own land revenue from the people. Now, people have no money to pay the land revenue, and I am sure much of the money which the Government is going to advance will be distributed to the primary societies and be ultimately lent to the ryots, to enable the Government to recover their land revenue. Sir, in our present circumstances, which are very bad, there is really a case for the remission of land revenue due from ryots. But, on the other hand, the Government deem it the correct thing for them, to lend money at a very high rate of interest, in order to recover an amount which strictly speaking should be remitted at this time. So, I do request the hon. Minister for Co-operation to take up a strong stand in this matter and see that not more than ½ per cent over the rate at which the Government is borrowing is charged for these loans. After all, the recommendation made by their own officer, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, amounts to what I plead for. He is a man who knows these Central Banks and their needs, and he has gone into the matter thoroughly. In spite of all these things, if the hon. Minister is going to insist on adding another 1 per cent to it, and this House is going to grant it, it must be considered as a tragedy."

* Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"I would not have been surprised if an ordinary money-lender of the Marwari type had opposed this amendment. But I expected that a banker of the position of Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar would have looked at this matter from the co-operative and industrial point of view and not purely from a money-lender's point of view. Sir, the Government is not asked to lend money to the central banks at the same rate of interest at which they themselves are borrowing. As long as there is a small margin between the Government's borrowing rate and the rate at which they are asked to lend to the co-operative central banks, the Government ought to be satisfied. After all, we have to support these banks at this time, and the Government

[Mr. Yakub Hasan] [12th March 1931

should not look to making any profit out of this lending business but should keep the rate as low as possible. I therefore strongly support this amendment."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, it comes to me as a very disagreeable surprise from my hon. Friend, Mr. Rajan, to ask the sanction of this Council to lend a certain amount to the central banks, thereby making some profit in the transaction. Sir, his object is laudable in so far as this money is intended to relieve the distress of the ryots. Granting that my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar's suspicion, namely, that the Government are lending this money in order to recover their own land revenue is true—and I agree with him in the suspicion which he entertains—as generally I do not credit this Government for doing any good except with some ulterior motives—granting that suspicion to be true, that the ryot should be thus charged indirectly by the Government a little more than what he would usually have to pay, if the Government charged the usual rate of interest in consonance with the rate at which they borrow from the Government of India, is simply an irreconcilable position for the hon. Minister in charge of the Co-operative department to take.

1 p.m. " Sir, all over the Presidency, the ryot is dying for money and for the various other necessities needed by him. At this time there are certain institutions which want to finance him to enable him to tide over the difficult times. At such a time it is unconscionable for the Government to charge a higher rate of interest and make a profit out of it. My hon. Friend Mr. Muthiah Chetti's argument is unfortunately not applicable at the present time. Sir, if the Government follow his advice it would perhaps be proper for them to demand a much higher rate of interest than what they propose to do now in view of the fact that there are money-lenders who charge 12 per cent and hundreds of Marwaris who would not be satisfied even with 36 per cent. Sir, if the money-lenders are able to do business by lending at 12 per cent and are able to compete successfully with the Marwaris who charge as much as 36 per cent, why should not the Government also compete with the money-lenders by the Government lending money at a lower rate of interest than that charged by them? Sir, the chances are that if the Government lend at a lower rate of interest, the depression in the money market will diminish and the money-lenders and Marwaris will take the cue from the Government and lower their rates correspondingly. But if the Government do not lower the rate, the money-lender will increase his rate a bit and, seeing this, the Marwari will increase his rate by a hundred per cent and seal the doom of the poor ryot. So, therefore, I am appealing to the hon. Minister to consider this matter in a cool and collected mood and see that this money is lent at a cheaper rate. I believe he is willing to reduce the rate by half per cent. If that is the case, it is clear there is the possibility of further reduction. If the principle is agreed to I do not think he will stick to the half per cent that is left. Surely I think the Finance Member and his department will not insist upon getting the remaining half per cent,

12th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

but will agree to the 6½ per cent suggested by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar. But if the Minister thinks that this motion having come from the Opposition he should not accept it, I am willing to ask my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar to withdraw it leaving it to the Minister himself to reduce the rate. I am sure, Sir, that were it not for the party allegiance there would be coming forward Members from the Ministerialist benches urging reduction in the rate of interest. I appeal to Mr. Rajan therefore to accede to our request. Sir, he has a good heart. He has been to a certain extent responsible for the constitution of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee. It is distressing to see the conditions prevailing in the country. We are getting letters daily from the ryots saying that they are on the brink of ruin. I am afraid if this state of affairs continues, the practice which was said to be once in vogue in China of selling children in times of famine will very soon be adopted in certain parts of the Presidency. Sir, a great part of our population is in distress, at whose suffering, I am sure, the hon. the Minister's heart will be moved although I do not yet know whether I have yet succeeded in moving his heart. My hon. Friend the Third Minister says that my Friend the Second Minister's heart has been considerably moved. I am glad. Sir, I may say in this connexion that it is only very rarely that opportunities for doing good to the ryots are afforded to the Ministers. This is one such opportunity. After all, the difference will not come to more than Rs. 2,500 during the period of six months. Is the Minister going to insist on getting this small sum and alienate the sympathies of those who are sitting behind and opposite to him and also the agricultural population? Surely not. Let not his genial smile cover a hard heart. Let it be in consonance with his smile. Let him say 'I shall accede to the desire of the Members of this House.' The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri had a talk with the hon. Minister on this matter. Sir, he is a very important member of that party. He knows the distress prevailing in several parts of the province. Surely he will agree with me that it is necessary to accept the motion to reduce the rate of interest. I beg the hon. Minister to do this."

* Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I desire to support the motion that the rate of interest should be reduced. I take it that this demand is an earnest on the part of the Government to help the co-operative movement which is now passing through a financial crisis. We all know that the co-operative movement in this Presidency, after a good start, has been having rather very strenuous days. Now trade conditions are not good and the prices of food-stuffs have gone down. In these circumstances it is necessary that the Government should help the Co-operative department not with this small sum alone but with larger sums to enable it to tide over the crisis and to do its work with renewed vigour. If that should be our object, the rate of interest now proposed is certainly very high. If the present loan is only an earnest of the desire of the Government to help the co-operative movement, I think we should now settle the terms on which we are

going to help the co-operative department. The Imperial Bank which was helping the co-operative department for years has now decided to withdraw the money it has advanced. This it has done evidently on account of the change of policy of the directors of the Imperial Bank. We also find that local boards have not been giving as much help to the co-operative department as they ought to, evidently because they feel annoyed with a certain resolution passed at a co-operative conference where the rate of interest was fixed. As regards the terms on which this loan is proposed to be given I am surprised to find that this is going to be a short-term loan repayable in six months. I am afraid the co-operative societies which undertook to repay the amount in six months may not find it possible to do so and may find it necessary to apply to the Government for an extension of the period. Further, the amount is so small that it would not be sufficient to give help to all the societies that badly require assistance from the Government. I think the Registrar of Co-operative Societies when he wanted to help the various societies got a list prepared of the societies that will be able to repay the loan within six months. Some of the societies evidently have promised to repay in six months and some have pleaded inability. Those that pleaded inability had to be taken out of the list. But I am afraid that even that list is not exhaustive. More societies will certainly take advantage of the Government's offer if more money is available and better terms are offered. I think it is incumbent on us now to initiate a policy by which the Government will be able to help the co-operative movement for the next two or three years. Otherwise many co-operative societies will go into liquidation and the co-operative department will not be able to tide over the crisis through which it is at present passing."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—" Sir, if I intervene in this debate it is only to set at rest the anxieties expressed by some Members opposite that we on this side of the House are not as anxious as some of them are on this question of reduction of interest. The position of the hon. Minister when he asked for this grant as explained by him was that this amount was necessary to help the ryot population on account of the stringency of the money market. If this is so, the rate of interest now fixed will not help to ease the situation. It is certainly not the intention of the Government to make a profit out of the sum proposed to be lent to the Central Urban Bank to be distributed to the district banks. If the Government advance money to the Central Urban Bank at this high rate, this bank will certainly in its turn advance the sum at a higher rate to the district banks and the district banks in their turn will raise the rate still further when they lend the sum to the primary societies and lastly the primary societies will further increase the rates when they lend to the individual ryots. Therefore there is no object in the Government granting these loans at the high rate at which they propose to lend. I think elaborate speeches are not necessary to support this contention. My hon. Friends Messrs. Ramalingam Chettiyar and Sami Venkatachalam Chetti have

12th March 1931] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu]

fully explained the circumstances under which they feel that there ought to be a reduction in the rate of interest. In this demand they have the support of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies himself. In these circumstances I support the amendment and request all my Friends here to vote for the amendment."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, I hope the Government will not take the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar seriously and make the lending transactions of Government as one of 'remunerative enterprises.' No doubt the times are very hard, but we trust that the Government will not be induced by such suggestions to make money-lending transactions as sources of revenue. I hope the Government will not lend money with that object in view. If our idea in encouraging co-operative societies in this country is to help the ryots and the needy people, then we must see that the rate of interest charged on our loans to co-operative societies is fixed at as low a rate as possible. As such I do not believe the Government will be justified in going in for profit out of these transactions. Even to-day when co-operative societies lend at 9 per cent, most of the ryots prefer to take loans from the sowcars at 11 or 12 per cent because of the various necessary restrictions imposed by the societies and because of the other services rendered by the sowcars, which the societies cannot. When the object of the co-operative societies is to teach thrift, punctuality, etc., to the village people, it is the bounden duty of the Government to see that the rate is fixed as low as possible. Some hon. Members have already explained the fact that if the Government lend at a lower rate of interest, naturally the money-lending agencies such as the sowcars and others will be bound to reduce their rates correspondingly.

" If an attempt is made by the Government to lower the rate of interest naturally the sowcars will also lower their rate of interest. So I request the Government to charge interest as low as possible: and I do believe that it should be possible to reduce the rate of interest proposed by at least one per cent more." 1-15 p.m.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Various hon. Members have suggested that the Government should charge only 6½ per cent and they pointed out that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies himself suggested 6½ per cent. When this recommendation was made the Registrar was not aware that the Madras Central Urban Bank, which is the apex bank for all the central banks, was going to charge 7 per cent. If they were to charge less than 7 per cent it might be said that the Government are competing with the banks. As a special case the Government have now come to the rescue of co-operative societies. In the course of discussion some hon. Members suggested that Government should only charge ½ per cent more than what they are paying by way of interest. The Government are paying 6½ per cent and they in their turn are charging only ½ per cent more. Now it is proposed to reduce the interest from 7½ to 7 per cent. I hope this will meet with the approval of the House and they will be pleased to pass the grant."

[12th March 1931

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—" In view of what has fallen from the lips of the hon. the Minister for Public Works I think it will not be fair to press my motion. We have to thank the Government for small mercies and we have no option in the matter. I therefore beg to withdraw my motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

VI.—MOTIONS UNDER RULE 24-A OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RULES

MESSAGE OF JOY AND GRATITUDE TO H.E. THE VICEROY ON PEACE SETTLEMENT

The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—" I beg to move the resolution standing against my name which runs as follows:—

'*This Council expresses its profound joy and gratitude at the successful termination of the conversations between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi and expresses its heartfelt appreciation of the inexhaustible patience, industry and courtesy of His Excellency the Viceroy in bringing about that result.*

'*This Council hopes that the spirit and mutual trust which have prevailed so far will enable a dispassionate consideration of the future scheme of constitution and lead to a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the status of India as an equal partner of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the promotion of the most cordial relations between England and India.*

'*This Council requests that this message be communicated to His Excellency the Viceroy.*'

" I am beholden to you, Sir, and the Government for having provided me with an opportunity to move this resolution which seeks to express profound joy and gratification at the successful termination of the conversations between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi and which has created an atmosphere favourable for a dispassionate consideration and amicable, just and enduring settlement of outstanding constitutional problems with a view to enable the country to attain a status of equality with the self-governing dominions and thereby ensuring and promoting an uninterrupted relationship between India and England, contributing in no mean measure towards securing world peace. I seek your permission to refer for a moment to the conclusion of the world war in which India has played a part worthy of her traditions. It was not unnatural that expectations for a very substantial recognition of the country's demands should have been formed and the Montford reforms should cause considerable disappointment which, aggravated by certain unfortunate occurrences, should have made the Congress enter upon a programme

12th March 1931] [Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri]

of non-co-operation. I will be taxing your patience if I were to enumerate in detail all the important events of the period between 1919 and the constitution of the Simon Commission. The sense of dissatisfaction engendered by the exclusive composition of the Commission and the procedure outlined then was mitigated to a degree by subsequent matters which failed to attract co-operation from many parties. It was at this stage that the courageous wisdom and far-sighted statesmanship of Lord Irwin impelled him to proceed to England and perform that noble and difficult task of shaping the opinion in favour of a declaration of India's future as that of a self-governing dominion and also in favour of a conference being held to give effect to this declaration. The claim of Lord Irwin as a sincere friend and great benefactor of this country and a wise custodian of the legitimate interests of Great Britain cannot be disputed. In view of the success that has attended the efforts of the delegates at the Round Table Conference, notwithstanding the grave apprehensions entertained by some at the beginning, His Excellency's nobility of character and the true Christianlike righteousness are amply brought out in his dignified and sagacious efforts made since December 1929 to secure co-operation of all sections of political thought in the noble task of designing and erecting India's political edifice on sure and stable foundations. His decision to release the members of the Working Committee of the Congress was directly responsible for the truce over which we are all rejoicing and which we hope will lead to the happy consummation of the ideal which that thin old Christian gentleman Lord Irwin, the Saint of the Viceroy's House nd the Saint of the Sabarmathi Ashramam have before them. Let us all devoutly and fervently pray for the speedy solution of the problems so that India may occupy a place worthy of her glorious past and as a shining jewel of the British Empire.

"With these few words I beg to move the resolution standing against my name and I hope it will be supported by all sections of the House."

At this stage the House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p m.)

* Dr. P. Subbarayan:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the motion which was moved by the hon. Member for Nellore. I must first thank the hon. the Revenue Member and the Leader of the House for having given us the opportunity of moving this resolution on this particular day. I am sorry that official intimation with regard to the agreement had not arrived on the day, viz., the 4th March 1931 when I intended to move this motion. I am glad that we have at least been given this opportunity of doing it at the present time. Every one in this Council is aware that His Excellency the Viceroy has taken a great deal of trouble with regard to the initiation of these negotiations and the satisfactory settlement that has been arrived at. As Bishop Ripon said the other day in his address in the Cathedral, it is really the Christian nature of Lord Irwin which has made this consummation possible.

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [12th March 1931

Of course, as Mahatma Gandhi has explained, this does not mean that we have arrived at a settlement of the question. It is only a truce, an armistice so to say, and the future relations between India and England will depend on the nature of the negotiations that are going hereafter to take place. As Congressmen have made it clear, if the constitution that is going to be given to India, is going to be fenced in by various safeguards, it may be difficult for people who have staked their all and who have sacrificed a great deal to bring about this result, to agree to a settlement. But at the same time I am sure that people in the country are delighted at the conclusion of the truce; I do not mean to say that the country was getting tired of the struggle; but there have always been people in this country who have trusted and believed that the way of negotiations was perhaps a better method of settling this question than by mere sufferings. As Mahatma Gandhi himself said immediately after the signing of this agreement, though peace has come, it does not mean that the struggle is at an end. I am sure that hon. Members of this House will hope that what has been achieved is real peace in every sense of the word and that a settlement would be arrived at by common future efforts which will lead to contentment and prosperity in the land rather than a renewal of all this struggle. One of the important things that the Congress and people of their way of thinking have impressed on the country, is that we must be recognized now as an equal partner in the British Commonwealth of Nations and I am glad that my hon. Friend, the Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, agreed to this portion of the resolution going in; because that is a matter on which the country is really very keen and I am sure that people realize that the time has arrived when we in India ought to be allowed to manage our own affairs—as Mr. Gandhi himself has pointed out—even to make mistakes in the course of such management; because, as he himself has pointed out, it is the right of every human being to commit mistakes. At the same time I am sure that people realize that there ought to be safeguards in the interests of India. I think that is the reason why Mr. Gandhi himself agreed to that portion going on in the *communiqué* that the Governor-General has recently issued. The great part that His Excellency the Viceroy played in bringing about these negotiations has already been referred to by my hon. Friend who moved this resolution. From the time that Lord Irwin arrived in this country five years ago, he has set his heart on bringing about a settlement of the Indian constitutional problem. I am sure all the hon. Members of the House will be glad that he has advanced it to a stage when this problem will be solved and a satisfactory settlement arrived at. To this end, India owes a deep debt of gratitude to Lord Irwin and the methods he has followed. Some people might have thought that Lord Irwin was weak at times; but even they must realize the great difficulties he had to get through, because I think people are aware that in his own country and in his own party there are men who are opposed to this settlement even to-day and it must hve been no small trouble to him to bring about these negotiations to this successful conclusion. I am sure that people in England also will realize that Lord Irwin has

12th March 1931] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

wrought not only for the welfare of India but also for the welfare of the Empire. Peace between England and India will really mean peace of the world. Two great countries like India and England being in friendly terms will really solve the problem of the East and the West and will make war in the future impossible. In that sense Lord Irwin, by his negotiations and the settlement that he has arrived at, has also made possible a world peace which all nations have at heart. With these few words I second the resolution."

*Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" The peace just concluded between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin, if not by itself the greatest event that the world has witnessed in the last decade, deserves to be ranked among the greatest episodes that have revolutionized the world since the termination of the war. I sincerely hope, Sir, that the truce will be soon translated into permanent peace and it will mark the termination of India's unique bloodless struggle for freedom, the boldest experiment in peaceful revolution, the first of its kind that was ever made in the world's history. If India and Great Britain will follow the lead jointly given by the greatest representatives of the two countries—one the beloved uncrowned King of India and the other the most farsighted Viceroy of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom and Emperor of India— all obstacles are sure to be removed from the passage of India to her legitimate place in the comity of free nations, the attainment of which is essential not only for the permanence of cordial relation to the mutual advantage of India and Great Britain, but also for the good comradeship of the East and the West. Freedom of India would then spell the freedom of the East from the intellectual, moral and material dominance of the West. The world peace will become an accomplished fact only when the only imperial power which has survived the empire-shaking shocks of the war will cease to dominate over the only nation that has continued to remain a subject nation in spite of her great contribution in the war to the forces that have broken the shackles of many a dependent people.

" In conclusion I beg to appeal to the people at the helm of the Congress to give due weight to the fact that the fate of India trembles in the balance at the present moment and it will be decided not in St. James Palace in London but at Karachi. If the great movement which began with the non-co-operation resolution adopted at Calcutta, the late British Capital of India, in which campaign I had the proud privilege of taking humble part under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, and which movement has, I hope, come to a successful end with the calling off of civil disobedience in the Viceregal lodge of New Delhi, the future capital of Federated India, if this movement has to bear any fruit, the Indian National Congress must give the same free hand to Mahatmaji, who by the by, has now laid aside his Generalship of the National Army and assumed the role of the premier statesman, at the forthcoming Round Table Conference as the Working Committee had given him in his conversations with Lord Irwin.

" One more appeal and I have done. I appeal to my co-religionists throughout India in general and to those in particular who sat in the

Round Table Conference in London to rise equal to the sublimity of the occasion and demonstrate to the world that the Mussalmans of India are not behind their co-religionists in any part of the world in their love of their mother land, and that their nationalism and not communalism is of the same high order as the nationalism and not mere religious fervour of the Turks or Egyptians, Arabs or Persians or Afghans."

2-45 p.m. * Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam :—" Mr. President, Sir, I deem it a privilege to be associated with this resolution. If the decisions of the Round Table Conference had given us matter for satisfaction and even gratification, we could not escape the feeling of uncertainty and doubt as to the sort of reception which they were likely to have in this country, particularly from that section of the public which had thought fit to abstain from attending the Round Table Conference in London. We felt that if those decisions were really to lead us to our ultimate goal, the atmosphere in this country should be such as to enable everybody concerned to consider the decisions in a spirit of friendship, co-operation and good will, and also that those deliberations should be received in a peaceful spirit by the sections belonging to the Congress. And if to-day the atmosphere has cleared up, and every section of the public in this country is in a mood to consider on their merits, the conclusions arrived at there, and if that section of the public which originally decided to abstain from the deliberations of the Conference has now expressed its willingness and desire to take part in the future deliberations, in the further stages of the Round Table Conference, I believe, I will not be overstanding it, when I say that His Excellency the Viceroy is principally responsible for it. When I say this, I do not by any means wish to depreciate the part played by Mahatma Gandhi and the other Congress leaders which is indeed considerable. But we must remember that His Excellency the Viceroy had, in the work he did, to face tremendous odds. He had on the one hand the non-co-operation movement and the civil disobedience campaign in this country while on the other there was criticism, violent criticism and mostly unreasoned criticism, of his own countrymen directed against him. Notwithstanding these two forces working from opposite directions, His Excellency the Viceroy kept steadily before him his one aim, and ideal, to leave behind him, when the time for his departure from the shores of India came, a peaceful and contented India, which will be in a mood to consider on their own merits the questions relating to the future constitution of the country. In that aim, His Excellency the Viceroy has at last succeeded, and while therefore, I would venture to offer him my humble congratulations. I should also most willingly and with the greatest of pleasure, give my support to this resolution, which conveys to him a nation's gratitude."

* Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this motion. Gandhi-Irwin agreement is welcomed both by Britain and India and almost all the countries of the world are jubilant over it. Some countries believe that their economic depression will be greatly relieved by this agreement. If there had been a breakdown in

12th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

the negotiations, it might have resulted in serious consequences both to Great Britain and to India. We are extremely thankful to both Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin for having averted such a catastrophe. The life of Mahatma Gandhi as we all know, is a life of sacrifices and nothing else; sacrifices in India and outside it. He dedicated his life for the cause of his country and his countrymen. The one lesson that we learn from his life is this: that truth and character win after all. His life is an object lesson to many of our politicians who believe that hypocrisy and duplicity are necessities in political life. They may be useful for personal aggrandisements, but not for doing any solid good for the country and the people.

"Sir, coming now to Lord Irwin, we can call him Mahatma Irwin. His birth, his education and above all, his character, stood by his side. But for his sagacity, statesmanship and sincerity, this result could not have been achieved. These two great men of character—I see the reflection of Jesus Christ in one and an extraordinarily good Christian in the other—these two great men met, they gave and they took. They lay aside their prestige, sincerity and service to humanity were foremost in their minds, and the outcome was the agreement. Let us not forget that this agreement is only a truce and that peace is yet to come. The peace depends upon the British Government, the Provincial Government, Legislative Councils such as this, and also upon our brothers and sisters outside these councils who have been suffering for the sake of our country, I mean members of the Congress party. It depends not only upon these but also upon the British public. With complete provincial autonomy, central responsible government, Indianization of the army, transferred finance and other items, I think, Indians will be satisfied, because I do not want separation from the British Empire. We want to be a self-respecting nation among the nations of the world, within the British Empire. I believe it will then be twice blessed—blessed will be the British Empire and blessed our India. I want that India should be a member of the Commonwealth of Dominions within the British Empire.

"Sir, as to the British public, I would appeal to them, especially to the Conservative Party, not to be petty-fogging, and not to be stubborn. Let them study back their history and see how dearly their stubbornness cost their ancestors in the past. We want to be permanently united with England. It is our desire to say 'England, with all thy faults, I love thee'. The British public, especially the Conservatives, must realize all these and take part in the Round Table Conference to be held in India.

"Coming now to our Local Government, I crave the indulgence, Sir, to inform His Excellency through you, that he came here not to rule over an aboriginal tribe, an uncivilized people, but to rule over an ancient civilized race who carried their civilization even more than five thousand years ago not only to the other parts of the world, but also to England and Wales. Sir, the national anthem of the Welsh people 'Hen weadfy nadan' my old father land was spoken not of Wales but I believe of South India. Thus we carried our civilization even to England.

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [12th March 1931

" Then, Sir, the Madras Government is very slow in responding to the terms of the truce in spite of all the explanations offered by the hon. the Law Member this morning. Sir, I request His Excellency, to whom this resolution is to be commended, to see that His Government do not read between the lines or take advantage of loopholes of technicalities and hair-splitting differences and thus mar the present beautiful situation."

* Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan :—" Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the members of the depressed classes represented in this Council, I rise with great pleasure to support this motion brought forward by the Kumararaja of Venkatagiri and Dr. Subbarayan. I do not want to reflect in detail on the past events; but I would like to say a few words about the recent happenings. The Viceroy and Mr. Gandhi were playing their cards equally well. The depressed classes, particularly women and children, love Lord Irwin and Mr. Gandhi for they brought peace in the country. In the last stage of the political struggle, the part Lord Irwin played was admirable. He allowed Mr. Gandhi a long rope with a view to study the political situation and feelings of the people in the country. He picked out all those who acted against the peace and tranquillity in the country and secluded them. At the same time, he picked out men who could be sober-minded and sent them to the Round Table Conference. There the delegates gained the confidence and good-will of the British public. The result of the Conference was, to a great extent, satisfactory to the Congressmen and to the country. The constitution has been framed, and the details to be filled in could be done sooner or later.

" Whatever form the constitution might take, unless the depressed classes were recognized as an important factor in the future constitution and an adequate share in the administration and Legislatures and other facilities they claim, were granted to them, the country would be brought by them into a state of convulsion sooner or later.

" Mr. Gandhi advocated that the removal of untouchability should be placed in the forefront of the Congress platform. Then he changed and said ' first Swaraj and then removal of untouchability '. Up to now, not a syllable fell from his lips about the depressed classes. Perhaps he would say now ' first Purna Swaraj and then removal of untouchability '. It remains to be seen what turn he intends to take.

" It is earnestly hoped by the depressed classes that safeguards for their protection in the future constitution of a self-governing India, as schemed out in the memorandum submitted by their representatives to the Round Table Conference, would be sympathetically viewed and granted. With these few words, Sir, I support the motion."

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, when the history of the last few years comes to be read, chapter after chapter will relate to the struggle of India for freedom; and two names in those chapters that will arrest the eyes of any reader will be the two great names enshrined to-day in the temple of every Indian's heart. The resolution before the House, though it seeks to express the thanks of

12th March 1931] [Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar]

only this Council really embodies a Nation's joy and gratitude at the Agreement arrived at between His Excellency Lord Irwin and Mahatma Gandhi. India is now on the threshold of a new era full of possibilities for a bright future. Every true servant of humanity, forgetting the bitterness of the struggle up till now and realizing that the noble soul regards the whole wide world as kin, must help in the onward march of our country to take her legitimate place among the nations of the world. Great things are 'wrought by prayer', said Poet Tennyson, and let us, in the name of the glorious past of our country and in the name of unborn millions, lift up our hands to Divine Providence to bring about a state of affairs which cannot be better expressed save in the words of Srimathi Sarojini Devi:—

'Thy future calls thee with a manifold sound,
To crescent honours, splendours, victories vast,
Waken !! O slumbering Mother !! and be crowned,
Who once were empress of the sovereign past'."

* Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari:—" Mr. President, Sir, I join in appreciating the great qualities of Lord Irwin and the great services he has rendered to England and India and to the world at large. But at the same time, I wish to associate with the name of Lord Irwin, the names of Mahatma Gandhi, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar and the Right Hon'ble Mr. Srinivasa Sastri to whom also the nation's thanks go forth for the way in which they have tried to restore peace in the country. The truce which I hope is the forerunner of an abiding peace, of an honourable and permanent peace—honourable to both sides—is the result of combined statesmanship of Lord Irwin and Mahatma Gandhi and of the three gentlemen I have just mentioned. There are some who feel that they see nothing in the truce. They say that after all Mahatma Gandhi has yielded and that he might as well have yielded without subjecting the nation to a period of one year's terrible suffering. I am not able to agree with that view. The suffering during the last one year and the events during the last one year have shown that the Indian nation is sleeping and not dead. These events have shown that the Indian nation is only sleeping and that it is waiting for the modern Christ to come and to say 'rise'. Sir, the modern Christ did come; he came and saw, even as Jesus saw, as stated in the Bible, that the child was sleeping and not dead. The modern Christ came and said 'why weep ye! The nation is sleeping and not dead.' He said to the Indian nation 'rise' and the nation rose; he said to the nation 'act' and the nation acted; he said to the nation 'jump into the jails' and the nation jumped into the jails. Now he says 'stop' and the nation stops. Then, Sir, he enters the room of the conference, not as the representative of a sleeping nation, but of a wakeful nation, of a nation that has proved its capacity to suffer. Mahatma Gandhi is now sitting there as the representative of a nation with its sense of dignity roused with the authority, the mandate and strength of a nation which has proved its strength as an equal to England. He is a greater force to-day than he would have been if he had entered the conference without the suffering

3 p.m.

of the country for one year. When I say this, I do not say that the peace has been achieved. What has been achieved is only a truce. Peace can be achieved only by mutual trust and by mutual goodwill. Given honesty of purpose and real honest statesmanship on the part of the British people, I dare say peace is well-nigh certain. But, our experience in the past has been that the British statesmen have not been honest in the pledges they have given from time to time. Pledges they were giving as freely and as freely they were breaking them and as freely again they were trying to explain them away. That has not been the case with the past alone. Even after the struggle began, the same practice has been continued. At one stage we see Mr. Benn making a statement holding out hopes, next Lord Russel comes forward and makes a statement contradicting Mr. Benn; then Lord Irwin seeing that the situation has got out of control makes a statement. In his statement we see nothing of a combination of Mr. Benn and Lord Russel. Then Mr. Churchill comes into the field and throws a bombshell which creates further confusion and then Mr. MacDonald rises and calls for peace. Now, Sir, if this is the sort of peace that we are going to have in this country, let us not have it. But, Lord Irwin in his wisdom and with his sagacity has begun a new chapter and I hope that if Lord Irwin, Mr. Benn and Mr. MacDonald are allowed freedom to do things in their own way, they would certainly do things honestly. But, I am afraid from what appears in the newspapers regarding the attitude of the Conservatives, that all is not going on well. Let us hope that everything will end well.

" Now, having sounded this note of warning, I want to say what exactly is the expectation of the nation to-day and what exactly is it that the nation expects as a result of the peace terms that are going to be discussed at the Round Table Conference. I am not going to talk about the form of the future constitution; I am anxious about the substance of the national demand; the substance of it is that we Indians ought to be able to feel in our own country as an Englishman feels in his own country. Under the new constitution we ought to be able to feel in our own country at least as much free as the hon. Mr. Stokes or the hon. Mr. Campbell feels in this country. That is the nature of the constitution that we want. We want a constitution under which we might be able to call the hon. the Revenue Member, the hon. the Finance Member, the servants of the people and not the masters of the people. That is the substance of the national demand. I am not going to worry myself about the name; call it Swaraj, call it federal type of Government, or unitary type or unicameral or bicameral, or by whatever name you like. That is the sum and substance of the national demand. Nothing short of this would satisfy the people of this country and restore political peace in the country. I would just close with the words of a great thinker, because these words express the demand of Indian nation to-day.

'Empires must perish to-day as they have perished in the past in order that free peoples may survive and realize their freedom. We have the signal instance of the fallacy of Imperial idea in Italy and Austria in one Empire made Spiritual Unity impossible. The Austrian Empire with its Italian appendage was a monstrosity. But now relations between Italy and Austria have changed.

12th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

Italy has come nobly to the help of Austria in the hour of her greatest distress and a spiritual unity is being found to-day which is obliterating centuries of hate. The truth is that the British Empire with its Indian appendage is a modern monstrosity. If the present unnatural relations between England and India continue, it can only lead, as it has done, at such a rapid pace already to a continually increasing bitterness on both sides. But if the bond of subjection is removed, then mutual trust and mutual respect will ensure both for the good of India and for the good of England.'

" Sir, that is the sort of relationship between England and India that we expect as a result of the peace and nothing short of it will satisfy the country as I said. I hope Lord Irwin as representing the British nation and Mahatma Gandhi as representing the Indian nation will bear this in mind in arriving at peace at the Round Table Conference."

* Mr. W. M. Browning :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise to associate myself and the non-official European community in this city with this motion. The achievement of His Excellency the Viceroy and Mr. Gandhi is unparalelled in the history of arbitration and the result could only have been attained by men whose sincerity of purpose transcends all the other good qualities they possess. I have the very greatest pleasure in supporting this motion, which I hope this House will carry unanimously."

* Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao :—" Mr. President, Sir, I associate myself in offering my humblest and sincerest congratulations to Lord Irwin as well as to Mahatma Gandhi. As we all know, it is a very difficult achievement made by these two great men and it is not a surprise if they have yielded to a compromise, which is purely due to purity of heart. Our thanks are due not only to these two great men, but also to Nawab of Bhopal, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jayakar and Mr. Srinivasa Sastri who took a leading part in bringing about this compromise. They were running up and down from the Viceroy's house to Dr. Ansari's house, just to see that they bring about this compromise. I am sure the great task that has been performed by Lord Irwin will make him an immortal Viceroy, as the ideal and most efficient statesman that ever ruled over India. Sir, when the whole country is jubilating over this compromise, we have a bolt from the blue in the shape of the Right Hon'ble Mr. Baldwin going back on his statement. After the Round Table Conference, he said in the House of Commons that if he occupied power or if we were on the Treasury Bench, he would have carried out the policy that has been pursued at the Round Table Conference. But, unfortunately, what happened: It is stated that certain sections of the Conservatives are not in favour of co-operating during the further stages of the Conference. Sir, it is an irony of fate that this party should take into their head not to co-operate with the Round Table Conference in London. I call it an irony of fate, because unless we have the unanimity of all parties as the Conference, the fate of India will not be decided.

" Well, Sir, if we go back to the history of politics, I may say that the discontent in India was first started during the time of Lord Curzon. It is very unkind to say that Lord Curzon had done anything bad to

[Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao] [12th March 1931

India. On the other hand, he was an able man, a man of great industry and ability. What did he do ? The first thing he did was the appointment of a University Commission, which awakened the whole of India and made them suspicious that he was going to cut at the very root of the fate of India regarding mass education. Then came the partition of Bengal. In fact, nobody knew and heard about Bande Mataram before. It was only after the partition of Bengal that one first heard of Bande Mataram and the agitation started. It had enhanced the agitation and discontent in the country, but Lord Curzon did not mean that discontent would be created by this act of his, but he thought that he was doing a great service in securing a greater footing for the British Empire by strengthening the foundation laid down by Lord Clive.

3-15 p.m. "Sir, in this connexion it is worth while to recall to our mind what Lord Morley and Lord Salisbury said about India. Lord Morley said that the agitation in India should be inquired into and the grievances redressed. Lord Salisbury said that it was absolutely necessary that the non-official element should be consulted along with the executive element and that that body should be given more opportunity in all matters of administration.

"Then, Sir, what happened at the time of the constitution of the Simon Commission. Great discontent prevailed in the country as soon as the personnel of the Commission was announced. The people were so much dissatisfied with its constitution that even the moderates refused to co-operate with the Commission. But ultimately it was recognized that Indians must be made a party in the framing of the constitution and the result was the Round Table Conference. The Government have realized the mistake that was committed by them and recognized the real danger and rectified the wrong.

"The conference must bear in mind that it is the problem of the vexed Hindu-Muslim question that is standing in the way for a solution and, Sir, it is a very difficult controversy to be settled easily. In fact it is the crucial point on which the success of the Round Table Conference depends. It is a problem which should engage the attention of the greatest politicians of India. And as was once said by one great statesman, the only way in which that question can be solved is by both communities acting in union with the other, i.e., by each sacrificing to some extent its interest to the other. It is only then a compromise can be effected.

"Then, Sir, coming to the other aspects of the Round Table Conference it is gratifying to note that the Princes have co-operated with the conference and have agreed to the form of Government that will be advantageous to the future of India, that is the Federal Government. They recognized the spirit of the times and to secure their position they took part in the discussions at the conference. And, Sir, this point should be borne in mind; but for the Princes, do you mean to say the Round Table Conference would have been able to achieve what it has attained? But for them the future constitution of India would not have been settled and would have been in the melting pot.

" Mr. President, Sir, troublous days are ahead of us, and to a certain extent the path of the future Viceroy, Earl Willingdon, has been rendered a little less difficult by Lord Irwin. For one and all here will recognize that Lord Irwin has done a great thing for Earl Willingdon in the shaping and settling of disputes with the Congress by what is commonly called Irwin-Gandhi Peace Pact. Sir, the civil disobedience movement was begun during his regime; and now when he leaves the shores of India that movement has been rendered a thing of the past.

" Sir, this House is aware of the fact how successfully Lord Willingdon worked diarchy in this province; and what is the root cause of this success? Racial equality. And it is with that racial equality that he is concerned to-day, and it is due to this policy that in his regime here, extremists turned into moderates and worked diarchy. I am glad Lord Willingdom bears still this important point in mind, and I hope under his able guidance the Round Table Conference will be a great success."

* Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM :—" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே ! " காங்கிரஸ் மகா சபையானது கடந்த நாற்பது ஆண்டுகளாக உழைத்ததன் பயனாகத் தற்போதுள்ள நிலைமை யேற்பட்டுள்ளது. மாண்டேகு-செம்ஸ்போர்டு பிரபுக்கள் கலந்தாலோசித்து இந்தியாவிற்குச் சீர்திருத்தம் வழங்கிய பிறகு தற்போது சட்டசபையில் எங்களில் பத்து பேர்கள்வரை இடம் பெற்றுள்ளோம். மாண்டேகு-செம்ஸ்போர்டு திருத்தத்திற்குமுன் இக்கனம்தங்கிய சபையில் ஒரு வர்கூட எங்களில் ஸ்தானம் பெறவில்லை. இனி வரப்போகிற சீர்திருத்தத்தில் எங்கள் பாதுகாப்பும் போதுமான வரையிலிருக்குமென நம்புகிறேன். மாண்டேகு சீர்திருத்தத்தின் முடிவாக சைமன் கமிஷன் யாதாஸ்து தோன்றியது. அதின் காரணமாக வட்டமேஜை மகாநாடு கூடியது. அதன் நடவடிக்கை சைமன் கமிஷன் ரிப்போர்ட்டையும் தாண்டிவிட்டது. அதற்காகப் பெரிதும் மகிழ்கின்றேன். இந்த நிலைமையில் சென்ற ஆண்டில் மகாத்மா பூரண சுதந்திரம் பெறுவதற்காக சட்டமறுப்பியக்கம் ஆரம்பித்தார். அதனை அடக்க அரசாங்கத்தார் கைகொண்ட முறைகள் மிகவும் பயங்கரமாயிருந்தன. அவர்கள் அவ்வாறு அடக்குமுறைகளைக் கையாளாவிட்டால் அரசியல் முறையை நடத்தமுடியாது. மக்களுக்கும் பாதுகாப்பிராது. தலைவர்களும் தேசபக்தர்களும் அளவிறந்த தியாகங்கள் செய்தார்கள். அவர்கள் அவ்வாறு செய்ததன் பலனாக சமரச முயற்சியேற்பட்டது. மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் தற்போது சமரச முயற்சி எடுக்காவிட்டால் நாடு எந்த நிலைமைக்கு வருமோவென யாங்களும் கலங்கினோம். இந்த நிலைமையில் லார்டு இர்வின் பிரபு தீர்க்கமாகச் சிந்தித்து விட்டுக்கொடுத்ததும் அடக்குமுறைகளை வாபீஸ் வாங்கியதும் பாராட்டற்குரியதாகும். மகாத்மாவும் தனது கொள்கைகளைத் தளர்த்தியதும் மனம் மாறுதலடைந்ததும் போற்றற்குரியன. இந்த சமயத்தில் இச்சபையின்முன் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் சார்பாகச் சில சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்தியாவிற்குப் பொறுப்பாட்சி நல்கப்பெறும் இக்காலத்தில் அடக்குமுறைகளை வாபீஸ் வாங்கும் காலத்தில் நாங்கள் 144-க்கு இரையாக்கப்பட்டுள்ளோம். தற்போது நாங்கள் பூரண பொறுப்பாட்சி கேட்கவில்லை. தெருவில் நடக்குஞ் சுதந்திரம் கேட்கிறோம். மனுஷாளாக எங்களை நடத்தவேண்டுமென்கிறோம். பொறுப்பாட்சி நல்கும் இக்காலத்தில் அதிகாரிகள் மனம் மாறவில்லை. இரண்டு தினங்களுக்குமுன் சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா மகத்து வாழ்க்கை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் கிள்ளை தைக்கால் வழியாகப் பப்ளிக் ரோட்டில் சுவாமி யெடுக்கக்கூடாதென சிதம்பரம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் 144 போட்டார். நாங்கள்

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [12th March 1931

அரசாங்கத்திற்கு விரோதமான இயக்கம் ஒன்றும் நடத்தவில்லை. எங்களுக்கு
144 போட நியாயமில்லை. பப்ளிக் ரோட்டில் போகத் தடையுத்தரவு போடப்பட்
டுள்ளது. மாண்புமிக்க அரசப் பிரதிநிதியவர்களின் உள்ளத்தையும் அரசாங்க
போக்கையும் கீழ் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்கள் கவனிக்கவில்லை. இராமநாதபுரம், வள்
ளுவகுடி, சிங்கநல்லூர் முதலான விடங்களில் பொது ஜனங்கள் ஆதிதிராவிடர்
களுக்குச் செய்துவரும் அக்கிரமங்களை கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் அறிவார்கள்.
வள்ளுவகுடியில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் நல்ல துணி கட்டிக்கொண்டுபோகக்கூடாது.
கூடையில் சோறு கொண்டு போகக்கூடாது. இந்தச் சமயத்தில் பொதுப் பாதை
யில் நடக்கவும் பொதுக் கிணறுகளில் தண்ணீர் எடுக்கவும் நாகரீகமாக பழகிக்
கொள்வதைத் தடுக்காதிருக்கவுமே நாங்கள் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறோம். இந்தப்
பொறுப்பைத் தவிர வேறு பொறுப்பாட்சியையும் நாங்கள் விரும்பவில்லை.
பொறுப்பாட்சி வேண்டுமென விரும்புவோர் எங்கள் உரிமையை எங்களுக்குக்
கொடுப்பதில்லை. எல்லாப் பொறுப்பும் தங்களுக்கே இருக்கவேண்டுமென விரும்
புகிறார்கள். இது எல்லாருக்கும் பொறுப்புள்ளதாகுமா? லோகல் போர்டு
களில் மொத்த மெம்பர்களின் தொகையில் நாலில் ஒரு பங்கை ஒதுக்கி அவற்றில்
ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு ஜனத்தொகைக்கேற்றவாறும், இன்றியமையாமைக்கேற்ற
வாறும் ஸ்தானங்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென ஜி.ஓ. மேல் ஜி.ஓ. பிறப்பித்துள்ளார்
கள். அதை ஜில்லா போர்டார்கள் கவனிப்பதில்லை. தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில்
மொத்தம் 23 லட்சம் ஜனங்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களில் ஆதிதிராவிடர் ஆறு
லட்சத்தி முப்பதினாயிரம் ஜனங்களிருக்கிறார்கள். ஏறக்குறைய நாலில் ஒரு பங்
கிற்கு அதிகமாயிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களுக்கும் மூன்று, அறுபதினாயிரம் இருப்
பவர்களுக்கும் மூன்றெனப் பிறித்துள்ளார்கள். இப்படி சொல்பவர் நாற்பதி
னாயிரம் ஜனத்தொகையார். இவர்களில் 10 மேலுள்ளாரை ஜி. ஓ. வின்படியும்
அரசாங்கத்தின் நோக்கத்தின் படியும் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றேன். ஒருவர் ஜீ. ஓ.
வோவைப்பற்றி எங்களுக்குக் கவலையில்லை. அதிகாரம் எங்களிடமிருக்கிறது, எங்க
ளிஷ்டம் என்றார். என்னாலானமட்டும் வாதாடிப்பார்த்துப் பயன்படாமையால்
போர்டில் இருப்பதில் சாரமில்லையென்று 1931-ம் ௵ மார்ச்சு௴ 10௳ நடந்த
மீட்டிங்கில் கூட்டத்தைவிட்டு வெளியேறினேன். நியாயமான உரிமையைக் கொ
டுக்க மனம் வராதவர்களும் வீதியில் செல்லவொட்டாமல் தடுக்கவல்லவர்களு
மானவர்களிடம் பொறுப்பாட்சி வந்தால் அவர்கள் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களை எப்படி
நடத்துவார்களோவென மனங்கலங்குகிறது. சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகளும் மனமாறு
தலடையவில்லை. ஆதலால் எதிர்காலத்தில் பொதுவான உரிமைகளைத் தடுக்கும்
144 உத்தரவு போடாதிருக்க கனம் அரசப்பிரதிநிதியவர்கள் பார்த்துக்கொள்
ளவேண்டும். அப்படியே மகாத்மாவையும் அவரது செயலையும் ஆதரிக்கும்
பொது ஜனங்கள் எங்களது முன்னேற்றத்தைத் தடுக்காமலும் எங்களையுஞ்
சகோதரர்களெனக் கருதித் தாங்கள் விரும்பும் சுதந்தரத்தில் யாங்களும் உள்ள
வாறே பங்கு பெறற்கேதுவாக எங்களுக்கு நம்பிக்கை யுண்டாகும்படி மனம்
மாறுதல் அடையும்வண்ணம் மகாத்மா செய்வாரென்றே நம்புகிறோம். மகாத்
மாவைப் போற்றும் இச்சபையும் மனமாறுதலடைந்ததைச் செயலில் காட்டு
மென நினைக்கிறேன். மகாத்மா ஏற்கனவே தீண்டாமையை ஒழித்தாலன்றி
சுயராஜ்யம் கிடைக்காதென சொல்லி வந்தார். ஆனால் தற்போது சுயராஜ்யம்
வந்தபிறகு தீண்டாமையை யொழிக்கலாமென்னும் முடிவிற்கு வந்துவிட்டார்.
ஆனால் இந்து முஸ்லீம் ஒற்றுமைக்காக அவர் மிகவும் பாடுபடுகிறார். முஸ்
லீம் எது கேட்டாலும் விட்டுக்கொடுக்கச் சொல்லுகிறார். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் விஷ
யத்தில் அப்படி சொல்ல மனம் வரவில்லை. முஸ்லீம்கள் முரட்டுத்தனமாக
நடப்பவர்கள் ஆகையால் அப்படிசொல்ல முன் வந்தார். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள்
அவ்வாறு முரட்டுத்தனம் செய்யாமையால் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவரவில்லை.
இனியேனும் மகாத்மாவும், அரசப் பிரதிநிதியும் தக்க பாதுகாப்புச் செய்வார்
களென நம்புகிறேன். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் தற்போது நாடோடத்தானும் ஒடவோட
வேண்டுமென்னுமுறையில் போற்றவேண்டுமே யொழிய உள்ளத்தோடும் பொரு
ந்த ஆமோதிக்கவில்லை. எதிர்காலத்தில் உள்ளன்போடு கலந்து கொள்ளற்
கான முயற்சிகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்வார்களென்று அதற்கு இச்சமரச முயற்சி அறி
குறியாக விருக்கிறதென யாங்களும் இத்தீர்மானத்தை ஆமோதிக்கிறோம்."

12th March 1931]

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, in the name of Labour, I beg to associate myself with the motion so ably moved by the Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. Labour is always behind nationalism, and even in the programme that Congress has chalked out, barring the law-breaking part of it, Labour is vitally interested in Swadeshi and Prohibition. Swadeshi means more labour, and therefore better conditions of employment. Sir, we have in this a struggle, one, the like of which the world has never seen, excepting perhaps a struggle of this magnitude representing another phase of philosophy which was witnessed some fifteen years ago in the Great War. After that war, I think this is the struggle which has attracted the attention of the world because of the novel method adopted by the participants of the struggle. On the one hand the Congress representing the people at large of the country have for the first time adopted or rather experimented with the philosophy of non-violence. I do not think that anywhere in the world this method, this experiment, has ever been tried except in India. And with what result? This House is aware of that. After the immense volume of suffering that has been witnessed and that has been cheerfully borne by the participants, nay, borne cheerfully by the country at large, now a truce has been arrived at. And the truce is not a day too late. After the change of atmosphere that was evident from the statement made by the Premier of England at the final plenary session of the Round Table Conference and after the speeches made by the leaders of the various political parties on the floor of the House of Parliament we thought the time had come when the struggle ought to be called off; or to use an expression which I think would be inappropriate, this civil disobedience war would be called off. And we are glad to see that the participants of this struggle had snatched at the psychological opportunity in calling for this truce.

" Speaking for Labour, I always felt that if the struggle were to be continued it would involve Labour also in its scope. And that is why we addressed both Lord Irwin and Mahatma Gandhi to seize this opportunity for a political truce. We should at the same time remember that the settlement arrived at, what is known as the Irwin-Gandhi Peace Pact, is only a truce, a truce to be supplemented by another Round Table Conference where other subjects and details are to be discussed, and that shortly in India itself. But for the time being this truce has given a breathing time for both parties to take stock of the situation. I daresay this truce has given an opportunity to think coolly and collectedly for some time of the issues before the country and also to the people who have suffered and to the people who behind the sufferings of others have always taken an interest and have given a helping hand this gives a pause to think out the future issues. I would also state this, Sir, that recognizing the necessity of such a truce it is also up to us to act up to the spirit in which this truce has been arrived at by Lord Irwin representing Government on one side and Mahatma Gandhi representing the Congress, and may I add representing also the country. Lord Irwin, when he first came out to India

was known to us as a gentleman who took a large interest in agriculture and as a good Christian. That is what newspapers reported him to be. To-day at the end of his Viceroyalty we are in a position to say that not only is he a good Christian, but he has been a good political Samaritan.

"Sir, it gives some pain to see that of late Mr. Churchill, or rather, I will choose to call, Messrs. Churchill and Company, have been acting, or trying to go back on the statement made by the leader of the Conservative party on the floor of the House of Parliament. I, therefore, while associating myself with the appreciation of the good qualities of the Viceroy and the statesmanlike attitude taken by Mahatma Gandhi on this occasion, I would pray that Messrs. Churchill and Company may go into liquidation and shut down their shop. I would also pray that the time-spirit, which is responsible for this change of attitude, for this change on the complexion of the situation, may grow; I pray that the spirit of democracy may prosper; I pray that the philosophy of non-violence may prosper; and in conclusion specially on behalf of Labour, I would pray that in any democracy or in any future constitution that may be ushered into existence as a result of the deliberations of the Round Table Conference that is going to be held in India, the interests of Labour may be adequately represented and that democracy be made safe to the poor."

* Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayarammal:—" கனம்பொருந்திய சபா நாயகரவர்களே! சிலகாலமாகவே இந்தியாவில் அரசியல் விஷயங்களில் பொது ஜனங்களுக்குள் குழப்பமுண்டாகிக் கொண்டிருந்தது. சுமார் ஓர்வருஷகாலத்திற்கு முன் சட்ட மறுப்பு இயக்கத்தை ஆரம்பித்தார்கள். அவ்வியக்கத்தில் ஆண் மக்கள் மாத்திரம் சேர்ந்து வேலை செய்தார்களென்பதற்கில்லை. இத்தேச பெண்மக்களின் மனமும் தேசாபிமானத்தால் தூண்டப்பெற்று, பொறுமையுடனும், அமைதியுடனும் செய்யவேண்டிய வேலைகள் அநேகமிருப்பினும், அவைகளிற் கவனஞ் செலுத்துவதற்கின்றி அரசியல் சீர்திருத்தமும், சுதந்திரமும் பெற வேண்டுமென்று துணிந்து வேலைசெய்ய முற்பட்டார்கள். அதிகமாய் ஆவேசத்துடன் பெண்மக்களும் வேலைசெய்ய முற்பட்டதில் இந்தியாவிலும், இங்கிலாந்திலும் உள்ளவர்கள் அநேகருக்குக் கஷ்டமும், கலவரமும், ஆச்சரியமும் உண்டாயிருந்தன. மற்றநாட்டினர்களும் என்ன நிகழப்போகிறதென்று எதிர்பார்த்திருந்தார்களென்றே சொல்லவேண்டும். ஆயிரக் கணக்கான பெண்களுக்குப் புதுக்கிளர்ச்சி இப்பொழுதுதான் யுண்டாகிப் புறப்பட்டார்களென்று பலர் நினைத்திருக்கலாம். ஆனால் அது புதுமையல்ல. இந்திய பெண்கள் ஓர் காலத்திலிருந்த சிறப்பின் பெருமையில் ஓர் சிறிது இப்பொழுது ஆரம்பமாயிருக்கிறது. இந்துதேசத்தில் அநேக மாதர்கள் கல்வியறிவோடுகூட அரசியல் முறைகளிலும் நன்கு பயன்றவர்களாயிருந்தார்கள் என்பது சரித்திர உண்மை. ஓரங்கல்லில் இராணி ருத்ரம்மா, மதுரை இராணி மங்கம்மா, மைசூர் இராணி லட்சுமாம்மணிதேவி, திருவனந்தபுரம் இராணி கௌரிபாய், வடதேசத்து இராணிகள் இராணி பவானி, அகல்யாபாய் முதலியோர் இந்தியாவின் பலவித நன்மைகளுக்காகவும் தங்களுக்காகவும் பிறருக்காகவும் அரசாட்சி முறைகளை நன்கு நடத்தினார்கள். பெண்ணினங்களின் பெருமையையும், தேசாபிமானத்தையும் பாதுகாத்தார்கள், பாடுபட்டார்கள், பழைய வழியைப் பின்பற்றியே தற்கால மாதர்களிற் சிலர் தங்கள் தங்கள் பிள்ளைகளையும், புருஷர்களையும் விட்டு சிறைவாசஞ் சென்றார்கள். இது ஆச்சரியமல்ல. தற்கால அரசாங்க சுதந்திரம் பெறுவதில் உண்டான குழப்பமானது இப்போது அடங்காமலிருந்திருப்பின், குடிகளுக்கும், இராஜாங்கத்திற்கும் மாத்திரமே சச்சரவு நடப்பதுமன்றி உள் நாட்டு குழப்பங்களுக்கும் காரணமாகிவிடும்.

12th March 1931] [Srimathi K. Alamelumanga Thayarammal]

தெய்வ சங்கற்பத்தால் அப்படியொன்றும் நேராமல் கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கும் பிரஜைகளுக்கும் சமாதானமென்பது ஏற்பட்டது யாவருக்கும் பெருமகிழ்ச்சியைத் தருகின்றது. இவ்விஷயத்தில் முதன்மையாய் நின்று, மிகப்பொறுமையோடும், தீர்க்காலோசனையோடும், இராஜநீதியையும் அரசாட்சியையும் நன்கு நடைப்பெறச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று நினைத்து இராஜப்பிரதிநிதியாகிய இர்வின் பிரபு அவர்கள் கங்கணங் கட்டிக்கொண்டார்கள். இந்தியாவின் முன்னேற்றத்திற்காக நெடுங் காலமாய்ப் பாடுப்பட்டுவரும் மகாத்மா காந்தி அவர்களையும் அழைத்துச் சென்ற இரண்டு வாரங்களாய் நடத்திய சம்பாஷணைகளின் பயனால் காந்தி அவர்களும் தன் சகாக்களுடன் கலந்து யோசித்து ஓர் விதமான சமாதான முடிவிற்கு வர காரணமாயிருந்தார். கடைசியாய் பிரிடிஷ் அரசாட்சிக்கும் இந்தியாவிற்கும் பின்னும் பலகாலம் அன்பும் ஆட்சிமுறையும் நீடித்திருக்கவே இவ்வளவு சீக்கிரத்தில் சமாதானமேற்பட்டதென்றே சொல்லவேண்டும். இராஜாங்கநல்லமைப்பே குடிகளின் உண்மையான க்ஷேமம். இச்சபையில் பல சகோதரர்கள் வைஸ்ராய் அவர்களுக்கும், காந்தி மகாத்மா அவர்களுக்கும் தங்கள் சந்தோஷத்தையும், வந்தனத்தையும், அறிவிக்கவேண்டுமென்றதைப்பற்றிப் பேசினார்கள். பெண்கள் பிரதிநிதியாய் இங்கு நானிருப்பதால் என் கடமையையும் நான் செலுத்த வேண்டியவளாயிருக்கிறேன். இராஜப்பிரதிநிதி இர்வின் பிரபு அவர்கள் மஹாமதியூகி ஆகையால் அரசாங்கத்திற்கும் குடிகளுக்கும் ஒற்றுமையுண்டாகும்படி இராஜியை ஏற்படுத்தினார். இவ்விஷயத்தில் பெண்மக்களுக்கும் பெருமகிழ்ச்சியென்று அறிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன். சைமன் கமிஷனில் குறிப்பிட்டபடி பெண்களுக்கு எலெக்ஷன் சுதந்தரம் கொடுத்திருப்பதோடுகூட மாகாண சட்ட சபைகளிலும், இந்தியா சட்ட சபையிலும், ஜில்லா போர்ட், தாலூக்கா போர்ட், யூனியன்போர்ட் முதலிய வேறுபல விடங்களிலும் மாதர்களுக்கு இன்னும் அதிக இடங்கள் ஒதுக்கி வைக்கவேண்டுமென்று கவர்ன்மெண்டாரைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

"அரசப் பிரதிநிதி அவர்களுக்கும், காந்தி மகாத்மா அவர்களுக்கும், என் மனப்பூர்வமான வந்தனத்தைச் செலுத்தி இப்பிரரேபனையை என் முழுமனதுடன் ஆதரிக்கின்றேன்."

* Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have so far refrained from making any speech on the floor of this House and it is a matter of gratification to me that in the maiden attempt that I am making, after I have been returned a second time to this House I should have been afforded a chance to speak on a subject of this momentous character. On an occasion like this, one feels inclined either to grow very versatile as some hon. Members have done or to let one's political imagination extend and cover the vast expanse of humanity. Mr. President, Sir, when we consider the great scope and importance of the pact which is the subject of the resolution moved by the hon. the Mover, one feels it difficult to envisage it in its full perspective because till the thing actually took place one would have been very doubtful whether it would ever take place. It is so unique and unparalleled in history that if it had not taken place and if we had been told such a thing was possible one would have derided the very idea because on the one side there was a fear that the authorities would stand on a feeling of prestige while there was on the other side an untractable determination that we must have either the whole loaf or none at all. Between these two extremes, when a settlement took place, I for one left, Sir, that it was nothing short of a miracle—a miracle I call it, because we believe it only as it has actually taken place, and if it had not taken place, I feel that a situation would have arisen where the relations would have grown increasingly embarrassing

3-30 p.m.

and complicated. Sir, so far as the actual details of the pact are concerned, from various parts of the House there has been a reference to the fact that it is but a truce and it is not an actual peace, and prayers are going forth not only in this House but also throughout the country to the effect that the settlement of the peace may also be effected by a manifestation of the same high character, by the same mutual understanding and by the same breadth of vision and outlook that have characterized the present truce, the settlement of these provisional terms. Sir, we owe, as has been said by the hon. Members who have preceded to-day, this settlement, in no small measure, to the fact that two persons of high character met and talked over the matter in a calm atmosphere of peace and goodwill and mutual understanding laying aside all false notions of prestige and all false ideas of strict and theoretical notions about political doctrines as such. Mahatma Gandhi was prepared in his large heart to realize the difficulties of the administration and even though it was a provisional settlement, he was prepared to creat an atmosphere of continued peace even if it be at the sacrifice of a few highly cherished demands, thereby demonstrating a high order of practical sagacity and political wisdom. On the other side we have this great Viceroy whose mission has always been one of peace, determined to achieve it with that indefatigable industry, with that inexhaustible patience and that high character which have been adverted to so well in the speech which the hon. Member the Kumara Raja Sahib made to-day. This happly contact of spiritual forces aided by the powerful personality of the heroes enabled them ultimately to come to a common platform where the pact became a settled fact.

"It has been mentioned on the floor of the house to-day that while the country is rejoicing over this happy result there is a certain note of melancholy struck by the Conservatives having decided not to take part in the Round Table Conference. That is indeed a deplorable feature, but there is one streak of hope, one ray of joy possibly emanating from the fact that we will soon have His Excellency Lord Irwin going back to his own country where I am sure this apostle of peace, who has been able to work such wonders in getting the liberals into the Round Table Conference, who was successful in winning the confidence of the Congress and in achieving such miraculous results—such a powerful and wholesome personality—would succeed in bringing back the Conservatives to participate in the deliberations of the second Round Table Conference or at least in the subsequent discussions that will be held after the second Round Table Conference in London.

"With this hope and inspired by the note of encouragement given expression to by the Mahatmaji himself in the speech made by him while announcing the result, I for myself will wait and watch and pray and hope."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, speaking on behalf of the whole Government, I wish to say that we heartily associate ourselves with this resolution which has received support from all sides of the House. We particularly associate ourselves with the

12th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

praise which has been bestowed on His Excellency the Viceroy. And, if I may do so without presumption in speaking of one who is my chief, I should like to express my unbounded admiration for His Excellency Lord Irwin and for the manner in which he has dealt with the several difficult situations which have arisen during his term of office. The restoration of co-operation and mutual trust between various classes and parties in India is a fitting close to his momentous Viceroyalty. We appreciate too the important part played by Mr. Gandhi in the recent settlement arising from these negotiations. We realize that he too had his difficulties and that he has had to bring to bear reasonableness and anxious thought on the decision of the question what was the right course for him to adopt in the best interests of India. I do not propose, Sir, I will not follow hon. Members in all that they have said regarding the past history of this matter or regarding what they expect to take place in the near future; but it should not be thought on that account that we do not appreciate the very great services rendered by those ladies and gentlemen who proceeded to England as delegates to the Round Table Conference.

" The present satisfactory situation is very largely due to the labours —to the arduous and anxious labours—which they undertook in that connexion. 3-45 p.m.

" Sir, one point has been raised which calls for a reply. Some mistrust that the Government intend to carry out their undertaking fully was expressed by one or two speakers. And in particular Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar charged the Government with being very slow in carrying out the terms of the settlement which had been arrived at. Well, Sir, I would like to assure hon. Members that the Government have done all they can to carry out these terms as quickly as possible. Hon. Members will remember that the arrangements made were finally settled on the 5th of March. On the previous day, the 4th of March, when it seemed likely that a settlement was imminent the Government wrote to their District Magistrates warning them of the fact and telling them that we should require them to take action as promptly as possible. The terms were actually received by us by telegram late on the fifth evening after the office was closed. On the sixth communications were sent to the principal officers concerned informing them of our intention to give effect as expeditiously as possible and as liberally as possible to the terms which had been detailed in the statement published by the Government. And we issued at once that day several other instructions and took other action. All notifications under the Criminal Law Amendment Act were withdrawn by a Gazette Extraordinary on the 6th of March. We called for a list of prisoners divided into two classes; firstly those in which no violence was involved and secondly those in which violence was involved or in which there was a doubt as to whether there was violence or not in the offence of which the prisoners had been convicted. We issued instructions to District Magistrates to withdraw on their own responsibility at once all pending prosecutions, to remit fines, to restore movable property, to withdraw notifications under section 144 and to

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [12th March 1931

submit reports in cases of dismissed or resigned village officers. We had sent telegraphic instructions to Superintendents of Jails to release all women prisoners at once. We called for a report of any resignations of Government servants in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement. On the following day a Gazette Extraordinary was issued withdrawing all orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code which had been extended by the Local Government and that was communicated by telegram to the District Magistrates. On that day we received a telegram that certain ordinances had been repealed and that action was communicated by telegram to the District Magistrates on the same day. (A voice: 6th March?) On the 7th. I trust, Sir, that this may satisfy hon. Members that we are actuated by the intention of carrying into effect the terms of this settlement as quickly and as liberally as we can.

" As regards the number of prisoners that have been released I enquired this morning—about midday—and the information given to me was that there were on the 28th February according to the District Magistrates' reports 1,531 prisoners in jail in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement including, I understand, persons under remand. Up to midday to-day orders had been issued for the release of 1,308 convicts. It is probable that there are very few more prisoners, if any, who have been convicted of offences in which violence is not an ingredient. In other cases Superintendents of Jails have been directed to send the necessary papers to District Magistrates who have been instructed to deal with them as expeditiously as possible after obtaining copies of judgments. I assure hon. Members that these cases will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

" Now, Sir, may I ask that spirit of mutual trust which was referred to in the resolution may be applied to the Government? We have taken this action with the full confidence that Mr. Gandhi and the Congress will carry out what Mr. Gandhi undertook should be done. We have shown complete trust in him and complete faith in him. We on our side are doing our best to show our intention of carrying out our share of the arrangements. I hope, Sir, that this settlement may lead to a cessation of mutual recriminations as to what has happened in the past. Let us rather instead of turning our eyes backwards look forward to what is coming in the future. There is a very great deal to be done, as any one who read the proceedings of the Round Table Conference must realize, before the new constitution can be brought into effect. And I submit, Sir, that it requires the application of the best brains of all parties in India to find the solutions of the very serious and difficult problems which still remain to be solved. I trust, Sir, that this settlement will be the beginning of a new era when all parties and all classes and all communities in India will combine to find a solution of these problems and to determine the future constitution of India." (Hear, hear and cheers.)

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, we must all recognize that apart from the patience, industry and courtesy which have characterised the noble participants of the negotiations it required

no small courage on their part to have initiated, conducted and brought the negotiations to the successful issue they did. Our thanks are also due, Sir, to those few intimate advisers of His Excellency the Viceroy, I am thinking more of the officials than of the non-officials who stood by him loyally and shared the heavy responsibility. His Excellency undertook in carrying these negotiations. More than that, Sir, our thanks are due to the great lieutenants and colleagues of Gandhiji and the rank and file who have made these negotiations possible and practicable. And when one passes in review, the heroic sacrifices and the innumerable privations the Congress and the members thereof have gone through, many of us here cannot but feel overwhelmed by a sense of consciousness of how little has been our personal contribution to bring about the consummation for which we are offering our felicitations. Sir, one satisfactory feature about all these is this, that so far as the lieutenants of Gandhiji are concerned they have to a man stood by him and are loyally carrying out his directions as honourable men. I wish to assure the hon. Member not to have any apprehension that the country will be a whit behind him in carrying out the terms of the settlement. May I submit that he on his side also should try and carry out his part of the Government's bargain in the spirit in which the settlement was arrived at? Frankly some of us felt very nervous in the morning from the replies that fell from the Treasury Bench as to how far the local Government were serious and earnest in the pledges of the Viceroy being carried out by themselves and by their officers. Let me hope that our earlier apprehensions are groundless and that they have been dispelled by the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member, which will be followed by action to the satisfaction of all of us.''

The resolution was then put and carried.

Message of appreciation to Mahatma Gandhi for calling off the Civil Disobedience Movement.

* Dr. P. Subbarayan :—'' I move—

' *This Council places on record its deep appreciation of the part played by Mahatma Gandhi in bringing about a satisfactory termination of the negotiations between him and His Excellency Lord Irwin and its admiration for his patriotism, love of peace and wisdom in calling off the Civil Disobedience Movement, and requests the hon. the President to convey this message to Mahatma Gandhi.*'

'' I think few words are needed from me to commend this resolution to the House. Everyone knows that as far back as December 1929 there was a meeting between Mahatma Gandhi and His Excellency the Viceroy, but they could not come to terms at that time because Mahatma Gandhi wanted what he called a change of heart in the settlement of the constitutional problem which unfortunately the Viceroy in spite of all the goodwill in the world was not able to give proof of at that time. He was able to give this now because of the declaration

made by the Right hon. the Prime Minister at the end of the plenary session of the Round Table Conference in promising responsibility in the centre and also in saying that the responsibility of carrying on the Government of the country should be transferred from the shoulders of the people of Great Britain to the shoulders of the people of India. That was what Mahatma Gandhi was looking for and that was what he wanted by a change of heart. That having been done the stage had been laid for the agreement now come to; and I hope that this will eventually lead to the stage of peace. As Mahatma Gandhi himself explained nobody can beat him in his love of peace and as the result points out it is the mere love of peace that made him call off the Civil Disobedience Movement. Though some doubts have been raised about the followers of Mahatma Gandhi, I am sure that all of them realize that through the path of negotiation that has now been opened it will be possible to bring about a result which will redound not only to the credit of India but also to that of England.

4 p.m. "The momentous session of the Indian National Congress which is going to be held at Karachi at the end of this month will settle the fate of the future of this country. I am certain that with Mahatma Gandhi's lead even there we shall not only have truce but peace and glory not only to India but also to England. With this most desirable consummation of events not only do I associate the name of Mahatma Gandhi but also His Majesty's Government in England, because but for the declaration of His Majesty's Government this peace would certainly not have been possible."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Mr. President, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion made by Dr. Subbarayan in high appreciation of the qualities of Mahatma Gandhi, particularly in the part played by him in bringing about a sort of agreement between the country and the Government. Sir, I desire to make only a few observations inasmuch as in the previous motion a lot of ground has been covered. Sir, the great experiment of conquering physical force by the strength of will force was launched by Mahatma Gandhi, and all corners of the world were anxiously watching the progress and the results of that novel experiment. Whatever little minds may think of the possibilities of non-violence transforming itself into violence at one stage or another, great thinkers both in the East and in the West have testified to the efficacy of this grand experiment. Sir, I believe it was Bernard Shaw who ridiculed the idea of non-violence on the ground that the non-resistance of the cow is not going to drive the tiger to love vegetable diet. (Mr. N. Siva Raj: The lion.) Curiously, we now see that the British lion—it is perhaps a more fierce animal than the tiger—has now recognized the force of non-violence and as my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, reminds me it was because of the noble trait which the lion possesses it has been possible for recognizing the nobility in others. Sir, I should consider England is most fortunate in possessing His Excellency Lord Irwin as Viceroy in this country at the present moment. Sir, whatever may be the unenviable position

12th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

which England held before the Great War, her position to-day is by no means enviable when you consider her unemployment, her industrial stagnation, and her difficulty to instil confidence in the minds of other countries about her honest motives. I am afraid England is perhaps in a most difficult situation ever conceivable. Sir, India, whatever Englishmen might think, is perhaps the sole friend to-day which England possesses. India, with her gentleness, with her dependable culture, acknowledged with readiness the services which England had rendered unto her and will always remain faithful to England, provided England treats this country honourably. Sir, His Excellency Lord Irwin has recognized not only the weakness but also the nobility of this country. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi is the best of this country. My Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, while speaking of the Congress in participating at the Round Table Conference, referred to it as a section of the country. That may suit in a speech here. But I dare say he must be feeling more than anybody else that that section of which he spoke somewhat cavalierly is a section which is bound to demolish the so-called results of the Round Table Conference of which he is a participant. I am keen on a change. But I believe more in changes of evolution than of revolution, and in that spirit I look forward to the results of the future Round Table Conference. I think this House should particularly wish for the Congress Party participating in that conference at least for the purpose of undoing the mischief of the London Round Table Conference. I have no quarrel with, nor is it my intention to belittle, the achievements which the members of the Round Table Conference feel they have achieved. But I shall certainly quarrel with them if they should glorify on any achievements which they deem to have achieved in England. Sir, I do not want to speak anything more about the Round Table Conference except for the pathetic belief of some that we achieved everything in having got three phrases, federation, responsibility in the centre and Provincial autonomy. The Round Table Conference results have given us no constitution but a constitution of safeguards. Every provision is a safeguard and not a right or a privilege conferred upon this country. Sir, if you look back upon the tremendous sacrifices which the country has undergone, we cannot resist our ardent desire to admire the sagacity of Mahatma Gandhi in calling off the civil disobedience movement. The civil disobedience movement has given a momentum to this country which it will be impossible to suppress except by conciliation. If the present calling off of the civil disobedience movement is taken to mean yielding or weakness on the part of the country, and on that score of the Conservatives feel that they have liberty to go back on what they have themselves conceded, they will be committing a grave mischief, and if there should be in this country any followers of that school of thought which is represented by Mr. Churchill, they stand to be disillusioned entirely. Sir, Lord Rothermere and Lord Baverbrook have given expression to certain statements which, though imprudent, Mr. President, are entirely true. As a matter of fact it is this attitude of the noble Lords and Mr. Churchill that acts as a tonic to Indian nationalism to demand what they have been clamouring for all these

years. Such of those who scoff at the idea of Mahatma Gandhi or who ridicule his historic march are, I am glad, to-day become his converts. I do not want to say this in order to sneer at them. I only want that the same spirit should continue so that the peace that is in sight before us will become an accomplished fact in this country.

"It is particularly cheering, Sir, to hear the hon. the Revenue Member to say that so far as their part in the matter is concerned they are willing to carry out their part of the agreement, and as has been reminded by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, this morning's answers to questions are somewhat irreconcilable to the hon. the Revenue Member's excellent speech just now made. But this speech being a later production than the answers of this morning, I hope it will remove the effect of the answers given this morning. (Hear, hear.) Sir, if we want to pick holes, it will be possible to find sedition in the speeches of every hon. Member in this House. Probably, Mr. Annapurniah was not more guilty than some Members of this Legislative Council in that respect. But if those statements are made by Mr. Annapurniah, it was because the times were such then, and now that we are trying to forget the whole past, let us also forget these references to which objection has been taken. Sir, reading between the lines of the speeches of Mahatma Gandhi and the other leaders in this country, there seems to be a hope for the release of the Meerut prisoners, prisoners who were charged with direct violence. That is the way in which the Government of India is moving. I expect the Madras Government in compliance with their assurance just now made will carry out, as has been said by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, their part of the agreement in the spirit instead of merely sticking to the letter.

"Sir, the hon. the Revenue Member also sounded a note of warning that recrimination ought to cease and that the past must be forgotten. He knows, more than anybody else, that Indians are perhaps the last race which harbours ill-will and hatred against anybody, much less against a Government and against the Members of a Government with whom it should be our pleasure to move in cordial friendship. But on their part, once again, let it be borne in mind that they should keep their servants actuated by the same spirit which is actuating them. I am compelled to make this remark in view of the fact that the hon. the Revenue Member said that even while there is a prospect of truce coming on the Government had telegraphed to the District Magistrates for the list of prisoners to be released and had taken all such preliminary measures on the 6th instant, it was the particular misfortune of my district, though I do not represent that district in this Council—I mean Guntur—a procession carrying Mahatma Gandhi's portrait on a temple car should have been ruthlessly dispersed. It is a pity that that should have happened. I think the one way of asking us not to indulge in recrimination will be for the Government to gracefully acknowledge that mistake and apologize to this Council for the actions of their servants. It is then that the spirit could be known to exist. Sir, I do not want

12th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

to say anything further about that matter. I leave it to the Government to satisfy the Council why that breach should have taken place in that particular place.

"Sir, now that this second Round Table Conference is in sight, may I make one or two remarks about it? It is generally believed that of all Provincial Governments, the Madras Government is the most conservative. Whether it is right or wrong, that is the belief. I hope, Sir, that at the second Round Table Conference the Madras Government would try to get that impression removed. This is necessary because a day will come when we would be considered to be constituent parts of the Madras Government. I do not want that we should succeed to a heritage of such discreditable nature, stigmatized as conservative when all the other provinces are more liberal. I hope that the peace which is in prospect will be implemented by such relief measures as lie in the power of the Government to relieve the agricultural distress in the province. That will well lay the foundation for the affection of the people towards the Government. With these few words I have great pleasure in seconding the motion." 4-15 p.m.

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Sir, in supporting this motion I wish to say a few words in appreciation of the wonderful changes that are going on in the relationship of the two great Nations, England and India, due to the unceasing efforts of His Excellency Lord Irwin and Mahatma Gandhi. Sir, when we speak of Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin coming to agreement, we speak not of two individuals but of two great forces in the world working for the cause of humanity. Sir, this civil disobedience movement of which Mahatma Gandhi is the exponent would not have been possible or necessary if there had been co-operation in the Indian household. If the Indian household had been one, if the position that is now going to be given to women and the depressed classes had been given long ago, this civil disobedience movement would not and could not have been started at all. That is to say, if the whole of India had stood unitedly as it did in 1917, this movement would not have gathered strength. The energy which had been created from those days had to be set free through an outlet; otherwise it would have ended in revolution. So what Mahatma Gandhi did was to resort to blood-letting. He found that there was blood pressure in the body politic and decided to utilize that opportunity for achieving freedom for India. He considered that to be the safest way possible and he was right. Sir, in following the path chalked out by him people have been found guilty under section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code and so on. I may say that such people are all good people whose one ambition was to liberate the country. As I was saying, Mahatma Gandhi who started this movement and Lord Irwin are embodiments of great ideals of liberty. If this fact had been appreciated in 1917, we could have won Self-Government long ago. Sir, the late Mr. Montague who made India an original Member of the League of Nations was unable to appreciate this at the time and it was left to Lord Irwin to appreciate this and complete the task.

" Sir, the forces that are at work have sometimes been led through channels which are not always acceptable to orthodox persons. We must not forget them when a new constitution is drawn up."

* Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Sir, in supporting this motion I wish to say a few words. It is really a great privilege for one like me to associate myself with this resolution which seeks to pay homage to the great personality of Mahatma Gandhi and the part he played in bringing about the truce which has brought peace not only to this country but to the whole world. Sir, we in India rejoice at the conclusion of the truce. I have no doubt that every one in this House will agree with me that, if India rejoices over the truce, England will rejoice even more; because, it was England which was affected more by the struggle that was carried on in this country. The economic depression that prevailed all over the world due to other causes was enhanced by the situation created in this country by our political struggle. Sir, the non-co-operation movement which Mahatma Gandhi inaugurated has been based on the sheet-anchor of non-violence. Sir, it was due to that faith of Mahatma Gandhi and those that followed him in absolute non-violence and sacrificed and suffered that to a very large extent we have achieved what we have. If the movement for the political freedom of this country had been conducted on different lines from those on which it was conducted by Mahatma Gandhi, I am afraid, Sir, not only India but the whole world would have been involved in a very violent and bloody war. Sir, it was Mahatma Gandhi who averted this danger to humanity and what we are now trying to do is to appreciate his wisdom in our own humble way. If Mahatma Gandhi did not agree to go to the Round Table Conference, he did so rightly, because we have seen what the Simon Commission proposed to do to India. If the Round Table Conference was called only to ratify what the Simon Commission proposed to do to India, I do not know what use there was in the Congress participating in the deliberations of the Conference. Sir, I am one who will not deprecate the endeavours that were made by all the parties that participated in the Round Table Conference in advancing upon the proposals of the Simon Commission; but I do not agree with some Members of the Round Table Conference who seem to believe that it was due to their efforts that any advance was made. They should remember that but for the sacrifice and sufferings undergone by hundreds and thousands of our countrymen who not only suffered but even died in jails, even the little advance that was made at the Conference would not have been possible. Therefore, Sir, it does not become Indian representatives—I regret to mention that there was one member from Madras—to state in their interviews that it was very regrettable that the Congress did not participate in the Conference. Sir, if it was not the Congress that really participated in the deliberations of the Conference, I did not know what political body it was that participated. It is the work that was done in this country by the Congress that was largely responsible for even the little advance that was made at the Round Table Conference. Even now, Sir, we find that Mahatma Gandhi, that Gandhi who was

12th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

regarded as a mad man fit only to be lodged in a lunatic asylum, is the Gandhi who has been responsible for bringing about the truce which is based on reason and wisdom which we are here to appreciate.

"If I welcome anything to-day, I welcome the change of heart on the part of my countrymen who have risen on this occasion one after another on the floor of this House to appreciate the great qualities of Mahatma Gandhi and his wisdom. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi was called a visionary. We have seen to-day that he was not a visionary with empty dreams, but that he had been visualizing the future of India, the future of a free India, that for the achievement of that goal he had been working to the best of his lights, and that wherever he felt there was any need to stop the hostility, he was the first person to do so. We have seen to-day that in bringing about the truce, he has shown that he is a reasonable man and that he is always prepared for peace. If there was anybody in the world who was prepared for peace and who has made non-violence as his method for the achievement of his desired goal it was Mahatma Gandhi and it is no wonder that our beloved Viceroy Lord Irwin loves peace because he is one who is interested in the future liberty of India. It was Mahatma Gandhi along with Lord Irwin that brought peace to India to-day. It is said that this peace may be temporary. But we in this House do fervently hope that this will be an everlasting peace and at the Round Table Conference which is to be convened soon, I hope not only one party, in spite of Mr. Baldwin's threat, but all parties in England will come round and participate in the real Round Table Conference and see that the task that we have undertaken is achieved in the end.

4-30 p.m.

"With regard to political prisoners in our Province, I wish to say that after all the people who were imprisoned were imprisoned for participating in the struggle for the freedom of this country. This civil disobedience movement should not be regarded as a separate entity in itself. It is one aspect of the whole movement that has been carried on in this country. Therefore it will not be proper nor just to separate the civil disobedience movement from the rest of the movement that has been carried on in this country during the last 50 or 60 years. Therefore I hope that all those political prisoners who have gone to jails, not by themselves creating any violence, but by fighting for the freedom of this country by peaceful means, will be and ought to be released and there should not be any discrimination made between those prisoners who have gone to jails on account of civil disobedience movement and others who have gone to jails on account of other causes, such as for making seditious speeches, etc. Sir, I hope from the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member that the Madras Government will give their best consideration to this matter and will certainly release all the political prisoners who have gone to jails and who have renedered yeoman service for the achievement of the results over which we are happy to-day.

"Sir, I would suggest that if at the Round Table Conference the question of minorities is to be settled beforehand, I would wish that

Mahatma Gandhi alone goes to it on behalf of India with the authority of the whole nation and tackle this question along with Lord Irwin who, I venture to suggest, is the only man that can sit along with Mahatma Gandhi and come to some agreement regarding the status of minorities in the future constitution of India. These two persons who have inaugurated the peace, I hope a lasting peace, are the proper persons who can discuss minority question as well.''

* Mr. N. Siva Raj :—'' Mr. President, I thank you for giving me an opportunity of associating myself with this resolution by way of giving my support to it. In supporting the motion before the House, I do not wish to controvert some of the unwarranted statements that have been made by some Members such as the misrepresentation made at the Round Table Conference in London, the conservative nature of the Madras Government on Constitutional Reforms, so on and so forth, because it will certainly spoil the atmosphere, and the spirit in which this resolution should be accepted by this House. Otherwise it would be very easy to controvert the statements that have been made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.

'' Sir, the one thing that I wish to say in supporting this motion is that Mahatma Gandhi for the first time in the history of political agitation in this country proved to the world that he is a practical statesman in addition to his being a saint. Hitherto the impression created in India and elsewhere was that Mahatma Gandhi was a mere sentimentalist (A voice: ' Lunatic '), a visionary and that he was an impractical idealist. For the first time it was proved to the world that he was a statesman, because he has realized that if he does not take advantage of the opportunity for taking part in the Round Table Conference and that if he continued the civil disobedience movement any longer, his cry would be a cry in the wilderness. Sir, it is because of Lord Irwin's kindness and sympathy for India, that this peace has been brought into being. It was his sense of fairness that was responsible for his efforts to bring the Congress into the Round Table Conference. Those people who claim that the success of the peace talks was due to any political movement are, I think, entirely wrong. It is not so much the movement that has been responsible for this settlement as the two great men who are behind the settlement. It was the private character, it was the courage, it was the high sense of duty of these men that was responsible for this settlement. It would be very dangerous to assess at the present juncture whether the success was due to the efforts of one party or another. Any way I am sure that Mahatma Gandhi will continue to be the practical statesman that he is even at the Round Table Conference. If Mahatma Gandhi gives up the case for the Hindus wholesale in favour of the minorities, then I am afraid my hon. Friends sitting on the opposite side will probably leave him alone and then Gandhiji will be obliged to join the depressed classes, the Mussalmans and the Indian Christians. I hope that the Round Table Conference to be held in the future will rise above these little

12th March 1931] [Mr. N. Siva Raj]

things and do justice to all the parties concerned. With these few words I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments that have been expressed in moving this resolution."

The resolution was put and carried.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I would request you, Sir, Mr. President, when you communicate this resolution to the authorities concerned, to mention that this resolution was carried without a division."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

VII.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

G.O. No. 86,[a] *Development, dated* 21*st January* 1931, *recording the Audit Report of the Government Industrial Institute, Madura, for the year ending* 31*st March* 1930.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed separately.

[12th March 1931

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 532 asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 442 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT

Press Communiqué

Fort St. George, the 24th February 1931.

The attention of the Government has been drawn to a report in the *Hindu* of the 14th February 1931 in which it was alleged that one S. Govindu of Kothapalli, a Congress volunteer, was bitten on the arm by a Policeman in the China Bazaar Road and to another report in the *Swarajya* of the 16th February 1931 in which it was alleged that a volunteer by name B. S. Sarma was also bitten by a Malabar Special Policeman in Audiappa Naicken Street. The Government wish to publish for general information that careful enquiries made by the Commissioner of Police establish that the allegation in each case is entirely unfounded.

C. W. E. Cotton,
Chief Secretary.

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 552 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 456 supra.]

Rice.

The harvest prices per imperial maund of $82\frac{2}{7}$ lb. of rice based on the average of the prices prevailing in two or three of the principal markets in the South Kanara district for

	RS.	A.	P.
Fasli 1337	6	4	0
,, 1338	5	15	0
,, 1339	5	8	0
December 1930	5	10	0

Coconut.

The average price of coconuts per thousand nuts in

	RS.	A.	P.
1928	50	0	0
1929	46	4	0
1930	37	8	0
1931	31	8	0

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 553 asked by Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 456 supra.]

STATEMENT I—*Works which have been carried out.*

1.	Coleroon ...	Improvements to the Lower Coleroon Anicut.
2.	Do. ...	Raising and strengthening the banks of the Coleroon.
3.	Cauvery ...	Constructing scouring sluices at Grand Anicut.
4.	Do. ...	Constructing road dam (surplus work) on the left bank of the Cauvery.
5.	Do. ...	Constructing a groyne (Bed Regulator) above scouring sluices of the Grand Anicut.
6.	Do. ...	Improvements to Lower Cauvery.
7.	Veerasholan...	Converting Thirukkalacheri and Ayyapadi calingulahs into a regulator
8.	Mahimalayar and Kadaliyar.	Converting Narasinganathan dam into a regulator.
9.	Do.	Converting Annavasal dam into a regulator.
10.	Do.	Converting Gudalur dam into a regulator.
11.	Do.	Converting Velur dam into a regulator.
12.	Do.	Converting Arabi calingulah into a regulator.
13.	Manjalar ...	Converting Mathur dam into a regulator and providing a head sluice for Manjalar.
14.	Velappar ...	Converting Kuttalam dam across South Puthar into a regulator.
15.	Vennar ...	Improvements to Pillai voikal syphon.
16.	Do. ...	Improvements to Jambu Cauvery.
17.	Do. ...	Improvements to Vikramanar.
18.	Vettar ...	Converting Kangalancheri dam into a regulator.
19.	Kaduvayar ...	Converting Pulivalam dam into a regulator.

STATEMENT II—*Works in progress.*

20.	...	Improvements to Cauvery-Vennar regulators.
21.	...	Raising the flood banks of the rivers in the Cauvery division.
22.	...	Improvements to Ayyavayyanar.
23.	...	Improvements to Tirunagiri channel.
24.	...	Diversion of the Upland drainage of the Vennar. (Scheme No. 1 affecting 82 square miles.)
25.	...	Raising the flood banks of the Vennar.
26.	Pamaniyar ...	Raising and strengthening the banks.
27.	Do. ...	Providing extra waterway to the Mannargudi Road bridge.

[12th March 1931

STATEMENT II—*Works in progress*—cont.

28.	Tirutturaippundi drainage.	Improvements to irrigation under Mulliyar.	Drainage improvements to a portion of the middle section of the Tirutturaippundi taluk are under construction. Improvements to other sections will be taken up after the results of the works in progress are known.
29.	Do.	Improvements to drainage under Mulliyar.	
30.	Do.	Valavanar new cut and banking.	

STATEMENT III—*Work to be taken up in* 1931-32.

31. Vennar ... Pulavanar (Nanumanar) drainage improvements.

STATEMENT IV—*Works under consideration.*

32.	Cauvery ...	Improvements to Nallur and Kittianai Uppanar.	To be considered in connexion with budget estimate for 1932-33.
33.	Do. ...	Improvements to Tirumalarajanar.	Under consideration of the remodelling division. (See remarks against items 28-30 above.)
34.	Mudikondanar.	Converting Thundam dam into a regulator.	Under correspondence.
35.	Manniar ...	Providing a new headsluice and improving the channel.	Estimate awaited.
36.	Koraiyar ...	(*a*) Adappar improvements.	Sanctioned by the Chief Engineer during the year.
		(*b*) Harischandranadhi improvements.	Estimate under revision.
		(*c*) New irrigation. ...	Depends on the results of the Tirutturaippundi drainage improvements now in progress.
37.	Vellayar ...	Constructing a masonry regulator at 84th mile and improving the irrigation of Pallavanar, Vellayar, Chittar, etc.	To be considered in connexion with the budget estimate for 1932-33.

12th March 1931]

STATEMENT IV—*Works under consideration*—cont.

38.	Pandavayar ...	Constructing a regulator at mile 81 and other improvements.	Will be considered by the remodelling division.
39.	Do. ...	Surplus from Vennar above Padavaiyar head into Vettar.	
40.	Odambogiar ...	Constructing head regulator and improving the supply to channels.	
41.	......	Remodelling of sluices ...	
42.	Coleroon ...	Providing a new head for Khan Sahib's canal.	In abeyance pending the consideration of the question of giving it a supply from North Rajan channel.
43.	Pamaniyar ...	Lengthening the barrel of Puvanur syphon.	Under consideration of the Superintending Engineer.
44.	Do. ...	Conversion of Agamalanar dam into a regulator.	
45.	Do. ...	Conversion of Peruvalandan and Edachimalai dams into regulators.	Under correspondence with the Collector.

STATEMENT V—*Works not yet taken up for consideration or dropped.*

46.	Cauvery ...	Connecting cut from Kodamurti to Vettar.	Considered unnecessary and dropped.
47.	Do. ...	Improvements to Mudavanar (Kuppiduvan Uppanar).	Dropped as it was considered that the opening of the sand bar by the interested ryots would be cheaper and more effective.
48.	Vennar ...	Upland drainage of Vennar—No. II scheme—Diversion of 116 square miles of drainage above Kachamangalam anicut into the Coleroon.	Not recommended by the Chief Engineer. Conversion of the Kachamangalam anicut into a regulator, if considered necessary apart from this scheme, to be dealt with as an independent scheme. Chief Engineer is taking necessary action.

[12th March 1931

STATEMENT V—*Works not yet taken up for consideration or dropped*—cont.

49. Vettar ...	Converting Nadar bridge into a regulator.	Dropped as even without this the channels are reported to be getting a copious supply.
50. Do. ...	Converting Sellur anicut into a regulator.	Dropped as the Board of Revenue reported that the work was not particularly necessary.
51. Koraiyar ...	Regulator below Saluvanar head.	The Superintending Engineer considered this unnecessary.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 562 asked by Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 461 supra.]

Statement showing the permanent appointments in the grade of Deputy Tahsildar made in Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts since the passing of G.O. No. 712, *Public* (*Services*), *dated 2nd July* 1929, *and G.O No.* 1254, *Public* (*Services*), *dated* 30*th November* 1929.

Name of the officer.	Community to which he belongs.	Date of appointment.
	Ganjam.	
1. M.R.Ry. Ch. Sarabhalingam Pantulu.	Telugu Brahman ...	14th August 1929.
2. Sriman Hridayananda Bhole, B.A.	Oriya Non-Brahman.	11th February 1930.
3. Sriman Brojomohan Praharaj, B.A.	Oriya Brahman ...	1st March 1930.
4. M.R.Ry. G. Apparao Pantulu.	Telugu Brahman ...	1st March 1930.
	Vizagapatam.	
1. M.R.Ry. M. V. Ramaseshu Pantulu, B.A.	Brahman	17th August 1929.
2. M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib B. Paparaju Pantulu, B.A.	Do.	13th November 1929.
3. M.R.Ry. D. Suryanarayana Nayudu.	Non-Brahman Hindu.	1st April 1930.
	East Godavari.	
1. M.R.Ry. K. Sambasiva Ayyar, B.A.	Brahman	15th August 1929.
2. M.R.Ry. D. Seshachala Sastri, B.A.	Do.	25th June 1930.
3. Lal Muhammad Sahib Bahadur, B.A.	Muhammadan ...	Do.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 575 asked by A. M. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 469 supra].

Statement showing the total number of cattle that were attacked by contagious diseases and the number that died during the last five years and more in Tenkasi taluk, etc.

Name of disease.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31 up to December 1930.
Rinderpest	..	..	1,050 attacks, 745 deaths.	440 attacks, 280 deaths.	220 attacks, 155 deaths.	40 attacks and 15 deaths.
Foot-and-mouth	..	..	..	..	140 attacks, 5 deaths.	..

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 584 asked by Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1931, page 475 supra.]

Letter from the Superintending Engineer, Tanjore Circle.

1. The breaches in the Cauvery-Vennar and their branches occurred between the dates 24th and 28th October 1930.

2. Soon after the flood was over, ring-bunding at all the breaches was commenced about the 4th November and completed by the 12th November. The breaches were also promptly closed to 2 feet above the F.S.L.s on the 20th November and regulation for full supply at the Cauvery-Vennar head was commenced on the 21st November.

3. Earthwork reforming banks at all breached sides of rivers was duly completed by the 15th December and the necessary protective works such as modasals and plantations were also completed by the 31st December and the flood work subdivisions and sections closed down on 5th January 1931. So by 15th December all work on the breaches was completed.

4. There was not a single complaint for water-supply. In fact we were ready to send down F.S.L. a few days before the fields dried up and required water.

5. The only breaches not yet closed are at the tail-end of rivers with no irrigation under them in those reaches.

6. The upland tanks which breached in the Tanjore and South Arcot districts were ring-bunded at once and water stored up. Work on them is in progress and is expected to be completed by September before the north-east monsoon sets in.

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